

MP arrested as loyalists 'invade' south

By Richard Ford

The deputy leader of the Democratic Unionist party was arrested in the Irish Republic last night after being detained when "loyalists" invaded a village in the republic, drilled and then attacked an unmanned police station and two officers in a mobile patrol.

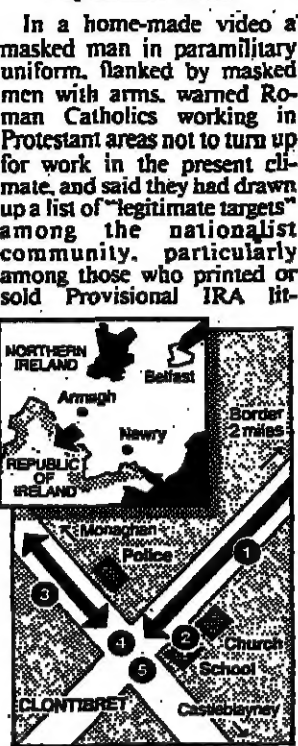
Mr Peter Robinson, MP for East Belfast, refused food and water as he remained in detention in a cell at Monaghan police station, while senior officers discussed whether to bring charges against him under the republic's Offences Against the State Act. He can be detained for up to 48 hours.

He was arrested early yesterday after about 150 loyalists, some dressed in paramilitary uniforms and masks and armed with sticks and cudgels, crossed the border on an unapproved road from Co. Armagh and took over the hamlet of Clontibret in Co. Monaghan.

Two unarmed members of the G. ardal were assaulted and their patrol car damaged. Slogans were daubed on walls and shrubs uprooted before the group dispersed when armed detectives fired shots above their heads.

Shortly before they crossed the border in a convoy of vehicles, loyalists in the north entered the mainly nationalist village of Swatragh, Co. Londonderry, and, armed with sticks, marched in military style before smashing a number of windows and causing damage to buildings. As they left nationalist youths attacked the security forces.

Last night the outlawed paramilitary organization, the Ulster Freedom Fighters, issued a reply to the Provisional IRA threats to contractors servicing the security forces.



1. Crowd marches mile over border into Clontibret. 2. School drenched. 3. Marchers parade in village main road. 4. Police car wrecked, two policemen injured. 5. Detectives clear marchers with warning shots.

ereature and others attending premises frequented by militant republicans.

Their threat came as tension in the province rose, with the 15th anniversary of internment due tomorrow and the traditional Loyalist Apprentice Boys' parade in Londonderry on Tuesday.

Elsewhere in the province a huge force of police and soldiers were on duty to foil similar displays of strength by loyalists, which the RUC suspected would involve the taking over of other isolated nationalist areas.

After receiving intelligence reports squads of RUC officers were deployed to vulnerable nationalist areas and unusual movements involving hundreds of vehicles and thousands of people were monitored in the counties of Armagh, Londonderry, Antrim and Tyrone.

Check points were set up to stop and search cars.

In spite of the RUC's success in thwarting other attempted loyalist takeovers, the Garda were apparently caught unaware of the takeover of Clontibret, which Unionist politicians say was designed to disprove assertions by Government ministers of better and tighter border security.

Under orders the loyalists drilled up the main road for about 20 minutes, attacking the unmanned police station, destroying shrubs and daubing the slogan "Ulster has awakened" on the wall of the station and a village school.

Mr Robinson was the only person arrested yesterday and was questioned about events in the village. Speaking from the police station he said that he had been invited to attend as an observer and had had no reason to run away.

"As far as security along the border is concerned we have an area of South Armagh with a gaping hole in it, without any sign of security forces on either side," he said. The incident was condemned by government ministers, who apologized to Dublin for the injuries to Garda Leo O'Hara, aged 26, and Patrick Carry, aged 28.

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Ex-CIA agent flees to Russia

Moscow (AFP) — A former US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) agent, Edward Lee Howard, has been granted political asylum in the Soviet Union. Tass reported yesterday.

The news agency said Mr Howard had asked the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet for asylum, saying his request was motivated by his wish to escape from the American secret services, which were baselessly persecuting him.

Mr Howard is reported to be sought by the US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Western sources in Moscow allege he had been collaborating since 1964 with the KGB, the Soviet security police, enabling them to arrest several US agents in Moscow.

Mr Howard and his wife, Mary, according to the sources, underwent CIA training from 1981 to 1983, with a view to a Moscow posting. He thus learnt the names and addresses of a number of US intelligence agents.

The sources said that because of Mr Howard's defection, at least five US diplomats were caught making clandestine contacts here. Two were expelled.

WASHINGTON: The Reagan Administration refused to comment on Mr Howard's escape to Moscow, the State Department saying simply that he was a fugitive from justice (Michael Binyon writes).

After the CIA was told last year by a Soviet defector that he was a spy, FBI agents went to his house in New Mexico, but Mr Howard and his wife were able to escape to Mexico.



Record breaker: Richard Hadlee celebrates one of his six wickets for New Zealand in the second Test against England at Trent Bridge yesterday. He has now taken

five wickets in a Test innings 27 times, a world record, and only two players have claimed more Test victims. Photograph: Chris Harris

Shares slide on poor results

By Michael Clark
Stock Market Correspondent

Share prices fell again yesterday after more disappointing trading news. The FT index of top 30 shares lost a further 12.2 points to 1,221.5, but managed to close above the day's worst levels.

This comes after Wednesday's record-breaking fall of 32.1. The index has dropped more than 30 points so far, wiping almost £6.5 billion off the value of British industry this week.

The market had barely absorbed GKN's warning about future profits, when TI Group, the other engineering industry barometer, sent out another worrying message.

TI, which manufactures Creda cookers and Raleigh bicycles, reported interim pre-tax profits up from £12.6 million to £18.1 million, but confirmed fears that companies had not benefited from lower oil prices. The news wiped £19 million from TI's value as the shares tumbled 32p to 463p.

But falling oil prices knocked Shell's interim profits from £1.73 billion to £1.26 billion.

Interim figures from Barclays Bank failed to live up to City expectations. Pretax profits rose 8 per cent to £434 million, well short of the performance of its three main rivals. The shares were marked 17p lower at 457p.

The appearance of a few cheap buyers in late trading gave dealers some hope that a technical rally may soon be on the way.

One leading stockbroker commented: "It looks as though the market has overreacted this week and share prices are now definitely looking oversold."

The Government is holding to its forecast of continued steady growth in the economy despite the recent record fall on the London stock market (Philip Webster writes).

Prospects for 1987 are now better than 1986, and ministers expect the trend suggested at Budget time of 3 per cent growth this year slowing to around 2.5 per cent next year to be effectively reversed.

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Pretoria warns it may not pay up

From Michael Hornsby
Johannesburg

An embattled South Africa has served notice that its ability to service and repay its foreign debts would be reduced and that it would be forced to introduce controls on imports if substantial economic sanctions were imposed against it.

The warning, issued on Wednesday night by Mr Barend du Plessis, the Finance Minister, is the latest development in an escalating economic war between South Africa and the outside world.

In retaliation for this week's decision by the Commonwealth to ban the import of South African coal, steel and

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iron, Pretoria has already taken measures against goods passing through South Africa to and from land-locked Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The Zambian and Zimbabwean leaders, Dr Kenneth Kaunda and Mr Robert Mugabe, were among the most vociferous proponents of sanctions at the Commonwealth mini-summit in London and have been singled out for criticism here.

Significantly, four of Pretoria's other black-ruled neighbours — Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Malawi, all of which are even more dependent than Zambia and Zimbabwe on the South African economy and are opposed to sanctions — have so far been spared any counter-measures.

According to Mr du Plessis, South Africa has always "played by the rules", but could "not allow sanctions or the threat of sanctions to undermine its total economy" or "accept unemployment and poverty for its total population, without taking any counter-measures".

A country not permitted to export could obviously not continue to import, he said.

Mr du Plessis estimated that scheduled debt repayments would absorb the entire surplus of about £1,800 million forecast for 1986, and that any contraction of exports could

Continued on page 16, col 2

Teacher training gains £30m boost

By Mark Dowd

The Government is to increase the annual budget for in-service training of teachers by £30 million in 1987-88.

The total expenditure on in-service training of teachers will rise from £170 million to £200 million, an increase of just over 17 per cent, from April 1987.

Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said yesterday that the scheme would mean a significant expansion in teacher training, allowing up to 100,000 teachers a year, or 20 per cent of the workforce, to attend courses.

Speaking on BBC Radio, he said: "Inspectors earlier this year said that up to 30 per cent of the lessons being taught were not being taught very well. I can't accept that. I have got to improve the quality and one of the ways of doing it is to increase teacher training."

A total of £130 million is to be spent on "local needs" and the balance of £70 million on 19 "national priority areas".

The list is headed by £16.5 million for training in shortage subjects such as mathematics and science and craft, design and technology. For the first time, a special allocation will be made for teachers to cope with drug abuse in schools.

A notable aspect of the Government's plans is the

sharp rise, from £40 million this year to a proposed £114 million, in the amount pledged through specific grants.

These central government grants are a controversial subject amongst local authorities because they restrict councils' room for manoeuvre. Unlike rate support grants, whereby councils can allocate their resources relatively freely, specific grants obligate local authorities to spend according to central government wishes.

Mr Alan Evans, education officer of the National Union of Teachers, said that the offer was "niggardly and parsimonious". Unions and local education authorities should press Mr Baker to increase radically the amount for 1988/89.

Mr Fred Smithies, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters' Union of Women Teachers, described it as "a step in the right direction". But he said that he noted Mr Baker's continuing silence on the more important question of teachers' pay.

Mr Peter Dawson, general secretary of the Professional Association of Teachers, said: "This is a very acceptable figure. Clearly, if the name of the game in the second half of the eighties is going to be in-service training, the money is going to be needed."

IN-SERVICE TRAINING BUDGET 1987-88

£130 million for local needs
£70 million for national priority areas

The national priority areas include:	£m
Training in the shortage subjects maths, science and CDT	16.5
Training for GCE	15.0
Training for world of work	8.0
Polyspecialism and HE colleges	7.5
Management training for heads and senior staff	5.0
Computing and information technology	5.0
Training about drugs misuse	1.5
Youth and community workers	1.0
Religious education	1.0

Reagan to take drug test lead

From Michael Binyon
Washington

President Reagan, Vice-President George Bush and about 75 other senior White House staff will submit to drug tests to set an example to the nation as part of the administration's war on drugs.

"The president has made it clear that he is seeking a drug-free workplace for all Americans," a White House spokesman said yesterday. "He believes all federal employees deserve a drug free environment, and that federal employees should set the example for state and local government and the private sector to follow."

The tests will be held on Monday at the White House medical unit. Analysts will be looking for traces of marijuana, heroin, cocaine and other illegal drugs — though there are no suspicions that anyone in the White House is using any of these.

Samples will be sent for analysis to the US Navy laboratory.

Iraqi blitz on Iran after shells kill 74

Baghdad (Reuters) — Iraqi aircraft launched intensive raids on Iranian oil and power installations just a few hours after Iranian shells killed 74 civilians and wounded 140 others in a northern Iraqi border town, the Iraqi high command said yesterday.

A communiqué said squadrons of jets bombed an oil refinery and two thermal power stations in the central Iranian city of Isfahan, the main oil export terminal on Kharg Island and a power station at Muntazeri.

It said Kharg Island was raided a total of three times.

'Raid played into hands of IRA'

By Philip Webster
Chief Political Correspondent

The "loyalist" raid into the Irish Republic was condemned by politicians in Britain yesterday with Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, calling it "disgraceful".

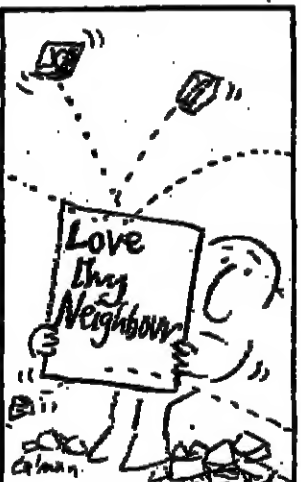
British ministers, who assumed that Mr Peter Robinson, MP for East Belfast and deputy leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, intended to get himself arrested, were angry about the demonstration because they saw it as playing into the hands of the IRA.

Mr Nicholas Scott, Under Secretary for Northern Ireland, who expressed regret to the Republic about the injuries to two members of the Garda, said the loyalist manoeuvres were a "stupid stunt".

Mr King said the incident had done great damage to the image of Northern Ireland.

"This was obviously a disgrace. At this time, when the IRA are trying to launch a particularly vicious and nasty campaign of intimidation and when the security forces are at maximum stretch to combat that threat, the so-called loyalists to launch this demonstration is quite disgraceful."

"We know that the IRA are trying to stir up tension, to excite sectarian fear and hatred and to try to provoke loyalist reaction. The loyalists have walked right into their trap," Mr King said.



Mr Stuart Bell, Labour spokesman on Northern Ireland, said that "over-violent" reaction to the IRA would not cure the ills of the province.

He added: "Our information is that border security is improving and will continue to improve as the months go by. That is the reason the IRA are stepping up their campaign."

Meanwhile a Conservative MP yesterday demanded a ban on visits to Northern Ireland by representatives of Noraid, the IRA fund-raising organization which is based in the United States.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP for Birmingham Selly Oak, was angered by an incident on Wednesday when a party of 30 Noraid members cheered the spectacle of two masked gunmen putting on a show of strength for their benefit in Londonderry.

A Majorcan sunshine package fit for royalty

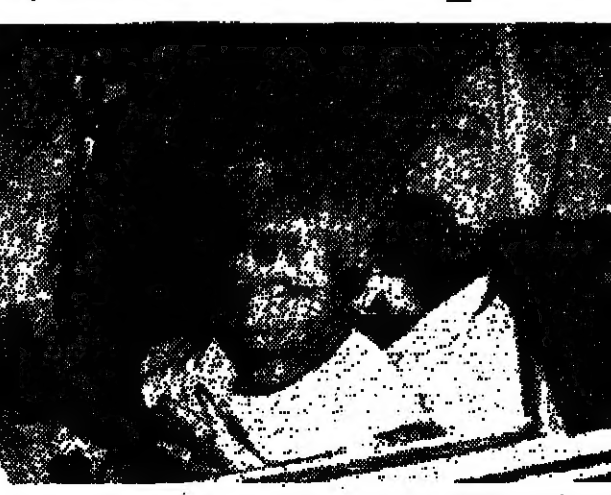
From Richard Wigg
Madrid

In strong sunshine and temperatures in the 80s, the Prince and Princess of Wales arrived yesterday with their two children in Palma, Majorca, to begin several days' holiday as guests of King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia of Spain.

At the military base on Palma's Son Sant Joan airport, where an RAF jet touched down just before half past one, the Royal couple and Prince William and Prince Henry were met by Queen Sofia and Prince Felipe, the Spanish heir-apparent.

The King was not at the base because he was sailing at the time in the Bay of Palma, taking part on the fifth day of races in the annual King's Cup regatta. He was to meet them later at the Royal Palace.

As if to underline the infor-



Dreams of sandcastles and the sea: Prince William sits on Queen Sofia's lap on the drive from the airport to the palace.

mality, all the party then piled into a Volkswagen minibus which had been driven to the base by the 18-year-old Prince Felipe from Marivent Palace, the regular summer residence of the Spanish monarchs for the past 13 years, originally built by a rich Greek painter.

A gleaming Mercedes,

which everyone had expected to take the Prince and Princess to the palace, went with only the chauffeur inside.

Although the staffs of both royal households were busy emphasizing the "strictly private nature" of the visit, the sight of members of two European monarchs holidaying together was being hailed by diplomats as an indication of how relations between the two countries had never been better.

Security on the island, which Spain's Defence Minister — now holidaying in the north of Majorca — pronounced a few days ago as "of the best" was strict, and reporters were not allowed near the arrival area.

Immediately after lunch at Marivent, the Prince and Princess and their royal hosts went on board the Spanish

royal yacht, Fortuna, to watch the regatta in which King Juan Carlos was competing as a member of the crew of the Bribon V.

The British couple are expected to spend much of the stay on the Fortuna, sailing and visiting the island's famous coves — small rocky bays.

For all the interest being shown by the Spanish press over the visit and in the Princess of Wales and her clothes and hats, Gibraltar has not been entirely overlooked.

In an editorial, La Vanguardia of Barcelona suggested that a friendship between the future King and Queen of England and the Spanish royal family "could, in the long run, be more productive than many acts of government" for finding a solution to the sovereignty dispute about the Rock.

Tomorrow Weekend of sport

Motor racing: preview of the Hungarian Grand Prix in Budapest, the first championship race to be held behind the Iron Curtain. Cricket: the second Test against New Zealand at Trent Bridge. Yachting: report on Cowes Week.

Portfolio Gold

● The prize in today's Portfolio Gold competition is doubled to £8,000 because there was no winner yesterday.
● Portfolio list page 21; rules and how to play, information service, page 16.

Doctors held

Hertfordshire detectives have arrested two anaesthetists who were dismissed from the Lister Hospital, Stevenage, on Monday after the death of a patient at the hospital two weeks ago.

Karpov level

Anatoly Karpov equalized in the fifth game of the World Chess Championship in London. Gary Kasparov was forced to resign. Page 2

On this day

On August 8, 1865, Edward Whymper described the tragic descent of his party after conquering the Matterhorn. Page 14

Degree results

Degrees awarded by Birmingham University are published today. Page 26

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Thatcher for Chequers

The Prime Minister is expected to leave hospital today after the successful operation on her right hand.

After leaving the King Edward VII Hospital for Officers in London, she will go to Chequers to rest before setting off with her husband, Mr Denis Thatcher, on Sunday

for a holiday in the West Country.

Downing Street said yesterday that the Prime Minister was continuing to make very good progress after her surgery for Dupuytren's contracture, which has been pulling the small finger of her right hand towards the palm.

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Modern media communication could affect war censorship

Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

A warning that advances in communications technology will make it difficult to enforce censorship during a war is contained in an unpublished study which was compiled for the Ministry of Defence.

A book based on the study, and prepared by one of the principal authors, Mr Derrick Mercer, is to be published next spring by Secker and Warburg.

The study, entitled, "Relations between government, armed services and the media during times of armed conflict", points out that at the start of the Falklands conflict the ministry had no policy or plan for dealing with the flow of information in war.

While the report recognizes that the Government may feel the need to impose censorship in war, it says the Government should accept that the rapid growth of new communications technology will make it difficult for one nation to exercise control over the flow of information.

It says that the acquisition of emergency powers to control the media should be sought only as a corollary of a declaration of war in a crisis which directly affects the national survival.

It advocates continuing study of a voluntary bargain, which would operate in wartime, under which the services

would offer information and facilities to journalists in return for compliance with guidelines.

It notes that in the Falklands conflict there were difficulties about the provision of communications facilities for the media, and suggests that for any future operation largely based at sea, the Royal Navy should investigate the feasibility of concentrating media communications facilities on a single ship of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary, and also the possibility of having designated transport to enable journalists to move around the Fleet.

The report was commissioned by the ministry after problems with the media in the Falklands. It was prepared by the Centre for Journalism Studies at University College, Cardiff.

Although submitted to the ministry more than a year ago, the report has not been published, although a copy is in the library of the House of Commons.

The report ends with more than 100 recommendations. The ministry is thought not to accept some of the more detailed ones on the internal organization of the ministry and the Armed Forces, but sources say that many changes have already been made.

Maxwell attacks council

By John Goodbody
Sports News Correspondent

Mr Robert Maxwell, chairman of the Commonwealth Games Organizing Committee, yesterday attacked Edinburgh District Council as "greedy and grasping" in taking legal action to recover £750,000 which they claim is owed them.

Mr Maxwell, who quarrelled throughout the games with the Labour council because of the invitation to Mrs Margaret Thatcher to visit Edinburgh, said that the council should behave like any other big creditor.

"They will receive some money on account immediately and the balance in September when we expect all our major fund-raising activities to have borne fruit," Mr Maxwell said.

The games are likely to lose at least £2 million but the Government has been approached for money. It is also expected that Mr Ryoichi Sasakawa, a Japanese philanthropist, will underwrite any loss, although that has not been confirmed officially.

Mr Maxwell said that the council's action "leaves a nasty taste in the mouth at a time of rejoicing at the successful conclusion of the great event."

Test boost for ailing Nimrod

By Our Defence Correspondent

Vital improvements have been achieved in the performance of the Nimrod early warning aircraft, its maker, GEC, claimed yesterday.

The company, which has until September 3 to prove that it can meet Royal Air Force performance requirements, said that the improvements were in two critical areas, the tracking of targets and the removal of unwanted radar clutter.

The Ministry of Defence is assessing bids by three United States manufacturers, and others, to replace the Nimrod project, on which £900 million has been spent in about nine years.

Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Defence, is expected to announce the result in October.

GEC said that further tests were being carried out on ground-based equipment, but a full-scale in-flight programme would be needed to show the effectiveness of the improvements.

On Tuesday, Plessey announced that it was joining the US company, Westinghouse, in providing radar and other equipment for the Boeing Awacs, one of Nimrod's strongest rivals.

'Stardust' leads to scientific conflict

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

Two eminent astronomers, Sir Fred Hoyle and Professor Chandra Wickramasinghe, have accused other senior scientists of hostility towards their latest research into life from outer space.

They say their arguments in support of the existence of life from outer space or a "cosmic phenomenon" are not readily accepted by a culture with another theory of biology for the evolution of life on earth.

They also claim that the opposition has spread to the blocking of grants needed for their investigations.

The allegations are made in the latest issue of the scientific journal *Nature*.

The two scientists express concern about the rejection of their research involving astronomical observations and laboratory experiments which, they say, show that dust particles carrying micro-organisms in a dehydrated state in space can reach earth.

When they enter the atmosphere, eventually settling on the ground, these desiccated bacteria and particles containing viruses are revived.

The two astronomers have found difficulty getting their scientific papers published in the serious scientific journals.

Mr John Maddox, the editor of *Nature*, invited the two men to explain their evidence, which other academic experts have turned down.

The two scientists, based at University College, Cardiff, say that they are accused of eccentricity. But they argue that they have progressed by a series of small steps over many years, with each step cautiously tested by observation, experiment or calculation using widely accepted methods of scientific research.

They describe the measurements of grains of dust among the debris of space, of which about 1,000 tonnes a year enters the atmosphere. In addition, they give details of experiments to reproduce the same sort of molecules in the laboratory which correspond to those measured in space.

Other research has looked at the ability of bacteria to survive intense temperatures and pressures, and still revive. They say that it was when their findings suggested that particles of dust in space carried organic molecules, as well as inorganic ones, that they began to experience hostility from referees of journals and from assessors of grant applications.

They say that it was when their findings suggested that particles of dust in space carried organic molecules, as well as inorganic ones, that they began to experience hostility from referees of journals and from assessors of grant applications.

BR moves to clear gypsies

British Rail has begun a series of court actions to clear gypsies from tracksides sites where, the company says, their activities have reached "riot level."

At the High Court yesterday BR was granted possession orders against more than 300 gypsies on a site in north London where, it was alleged, a security guard was stoned. Other actions are pending over sites at Manchester and Cardiff.



Police clean up yesterday at the police station in Clontarf, Co Monaghan, after the attack by 150 "loyalists" in which Mr Peter Robinson was arrested (Photograph: Bill Warhurst)

The power behind Paisley

By Richard Ford

In the crisis that has engulfed Northern Ireland's "loyalists" since the signing of the Anglo-Irish agreement, Mr Peter Robinson, deputy leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, has been in the forefront of plotting their opposition to it.

Yesterday, as Mr Robinson's supporters passed messages from him, his party leader, Mr Ian Paisley, was out of the country.

In public and private Mr Robinson, aged 37, MP for East Belfast, has been more calculated and cunning than the self-proclaimed "big man" of Ulster politics. Increasingly Mr Paisley looks tired. He is

not as sharp or sure-footed as he was and his party colleagues privately concede it.

He delegates much more to his astute and articulate deputy, who over the years has emerged as an indispensable and powerful force. Rival Unionists predicted that eventually Mr Paisley would cut him down to size. But Mr Robinson has gone from strength to strength, waxing loudly and eloquently his loyalty to the DUP leader.

It was Mr Robinson who snarled at a public meeting that Mrs Thatcher had been found guilty and he would like to suggest the electric chair as a suitable penalty.

Earlier this year Mr Robinson admitted that it would not be possible to have any solution to the Northern Ireland problem by ignoring one section of the community and he said he was prepared to recognize that the North needed a relationship and co-operation with the Irish Republic. Born into a strong Unionist family from Carraduff, south of Belfast, he joined Mr Paisley's embryonic political organization in the early 1970s. He is credited with being the motivating force which transformed it into a fully fledged party.

Easiest coup, page 12
Leading article, page 13

Cover-up alleged on health of poor

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

The Government is accused by a leading medical journal today of suppressing information about the "widening" health gap between the social classes.

An editorial in the *British Medical Journal* asks why differences in mortality between the classes have received little attention in the recently-published statistics from the Registrar General.

"Could it be because somebody in the Government or in the Registrar General's office is anxious to play down the widening gap in mortality between rich and poor?" the article asks. If so, it says, history has repeated itself.

Similar information produced six years ago as the Black Report was published in limited circulation and made available by the Government on an August Bank holiday Monday, it says.

"Not surprisingly, this attempt at suppression made the document instantly more newsworthy and it has since become, in the minds of many, the most important medical report since the war," the *BMJ* says.

The latest information is part of a supplement of the national census produced every 10 years. The last version had about 60 pages devoted to discussing social class differences in mortality, but the new edition has only five pages on the topic, the editorial says.

"Anyone interested in inequalities in health will be disappointed. The report claims that the figures for social class V are unreliable and that we should look elsewhere for a more authoritative account of recent differences in mortality among the social classes."

Pollution task force

Four groups of government inspectors are to form a single 100-strong pollution task force after years of complaints about divided responsibilities from industry and environmental campaigners (Hugh Clayton writes).

The amalgamation of three inspectorates was recommended last year by the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environ-

ment, added a fourth to monitor pollution of waterways.

The radiochemical and hazardous waste inspectors who work for the Department of the Environment will become part of the new single pollution inspectorate along with the industrial air pollution inspectors from the Health and Safety Executive.

Mr Ridley, said: "It has been a contentious issue. We felt that the time had come to settle it."

Faslane bribery man jailed

A man who bribed government officials to obtain more than a million litres of waste oil from the Strathclyde submarine base at Faslane Bay was jailed for nine months yesterday by the High Court in Edinburgh.

William MacLeod, aged 36, a manager for Lister Oils, of Parkville Road, Bellshill, Lanarkshire, admitted giving bribes totalling £22,000 to members of the Royal Maritime Auxiliary Service to obtain waste oil for his company.

The bribes allowed the unauthorized removal of waste oil from the base and persuaded officials to have the water removed so the waste became more valuable.

Lord Ross, the Lord Justice Clerk, said: "Corruption can never be regarded lightly and the interests of the public require the courts to treat corruption as a very serious offence."

"I cannot close my eyes to the skill of the operation." The judge accepted that the accused was acting for his employers but MacLeod knew that what he was doing was unlawful. His company could not have obtained the benefits but for his actions.

The loss to the Ministry of Defence was £99,000. The ministry in London said last night: "Steps have been taken since this incident came to light, to tighten up on procedures for the disposal of salvage (dirty oil) and to prevent any repetition."

Industry in doldrums

Profit results fuel stock market fears

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

The London stock market jitters continued yesterday after the record one-day drop on Wednesday that wiped almost £4,000 million off share values.

A poorer-than-expected performance by a leading engineering company, this time TI, the former Tube Investments, again played a part, as did the previous day's setback reported by GKN, a big supplier of vehicle components.

TI, whose products range from steel tubes and kitchen appliances to Raleigh bicycles, is, like GKN, in the front line of British manufacturing. While pre-tax interim profits had improved they were not up to the market's expectations.

The company argued, as ICI had argued last month, that lower oil prices had not fed through yet to produce lower manufacturing costs. GKN claimed it had been undone by a sudden drop of a fifth in world demand for commercial and agricultural vehicle components.

In contrast, BOC, the former British Oxygen, whose operations now include health care products as well as industrial gases, and a company as much in the front line, was reporting yesterday increased

pre-tax profits over nine months. It was rather in line with market hopes and the shares were marked up.

Clearly the GKN and TI results appear to show that British manufacturing has run into difficult times, underlining survey warnings from the Confederation of British Industry last month and given added weight this week by a survey from the Association of British Chambers of Commerce.

The news from industry is only one factor in the stock market fall. The market indices have been falling steadily through the summer and the preoccupations continue with the effects of a weak pound, oil prices, high interest rates and the uncertain political outlook.

The CBI said yesterday that no fresh evidence from the industrial heartlands put any new gloss yet on its last quarterly survey of manufacturing industry. This painted a picture of industry in the doldrums, with output over the previous four months worse than expected.

Some improvement seemed due later this year but it was expected to be slow and then likely to be concentrated in the

consumer goods industries. Exports presented as dull a picture as that for sales in Britain. The net result was that rather more than a fifth of companies in the survey were less optimistic about trading than they were in April.

CBI economists are preparing to revise their gross national product (GNP) forecasts, which are likely to show a dip from the previously predicted 2.5 per cent for the year.

The CBI view that British industry is seeing only a lull in activity was some comfort to the Government. Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, has been describing the period of economic sluggishness as a pause in growth that he expected to be over soon in Britain and overseas.

The Association of British Chambers of Commerce survey of the second quarter of this year indicates that growth in export orders has fallen away entirely, with home orders growth also looking sickly.

In the West and East Midlands and Greater Manchester, all key manufacturing areas, home and export orders

World chess championship Kasparov forced into resignation

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

Anatoly Karpov has dramatically equalized in the fifth game of the World Chess Championship at the Park Lane Hotel, London. The champion, Garry Kasparov, was forced to resign in 32 moves but his situation had been hopeless for some time.

The score is now one win each with three draws. For the third time Kasparov parried with the Grünfeld defence but the challenger deviated subtly from the similar variation employed in the first game. Kasparov sacrificed a pawn, which White was unable to hold, but in exchange Karpov obtained a mighty protected passed pawn on the far advanced d6 square.

Many experts felt Kasparov's opening was dubious, but he had used up only 20 minutes over his first 16 moves. This gave the impression that the variation had been prepared beforehand by the champion's team of analysts.

On move 18 Kasparov continued to move rapidly but grandmasters watching the move believed that at precisely that moment Kasparov missed a good chance. The move would have been 18 g2, 19 Bxg5 Bxg5, forcing the position open for Black's bishops.

Once this opportunity had been overlooked, Karpov clamped down on Black's possible counterplay with the locking move 19 h4. After that Black could only flash hopelessly around. There was a brief period of drama as Kasparov made a dash with his own passed "e" pawn, but when Karpov's Rook moved to a1 on move 25 the Black offensive fizzled out.

Viktor Korchnoi, world title challenger in 1978 and 1981, said after move 22: "Five moves ago I said Black was totally lost, and nothing has changed." Tony Miles, commenting in *The Times* lecture room, said he found all of Kasparov's moves incomprehensible.

Jasha Murei, a former world championship assistant, said Kasparov should have varied his opening repertoire. Accord-

ing to him the kind of inflexible fixed position which arose suited Karpov down to the ground.

The London leg of the match, sponsored by Save and Prosper, continues until the end of August. Victory goes to the first player to score six wins or 12½ points. Play resumes this afternoon.

Moves:	White	Black
1 d4	Nf6	17 c5
2 c4	e5	18 d6
3 Nd3	c5	19 h4
4 Bg4	Bg7	20 Nf3
5 e3	Qd7	21 B3
6 dxc5	Qa5	22 Rf1
7 Rf1	Nc4	23 Nf2
8 cxd5	Nxd5	24 Nd3
9 Qd2	Qa2	25 Ra1
10 bxc3	Qd2	26 bxc5
11 Kd2	Nd7	27 Bxg5
12 Bg5	O-O	28 Bf4
13 Bxd7	Bxd7	29 Ra2
14 a4	e5	30 Rcd3
15 a5	e6	31 Rcd3
16 a4	Rf8	32 Ne1

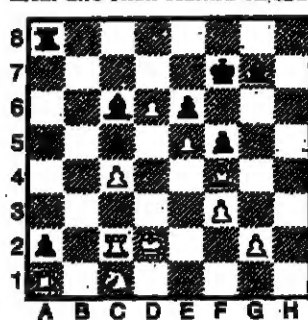
Leaders draw after long fight

With two rounds to go Jonathan Speelman and Jonathan Mestel are leading the British Chess Championship in Southampton, with seven points each (Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent, writes).

Half a point behind is Daniel King while Murray Chandler on six is sharing fourth position with eight players.

Mestel and Speelman drew after a long hard fight and Chandler was in serious trouble against King but the game ended in a draw after double adjournment.

In the women's tournament, Susan Arkell is 2½ points ahead of Christine Ekar and Rani Hamid on six.



Charge to replace Scots rate

The Scottish rates system is to be reformed and a community charge introduced, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland, announced yesterday.

Nothing showed more clearly that the system should be scrapped than the 15,000 letters of protest received at the height of last year's rates dispute, he said.

The Scottish Office had received 571 comments on the Government's Green Paper outlining proposals for reform. Mr Rifkind added: "The opposition we have had pales into insignificance besides the groundswell of popular opinion that we felt last year."

Legislation would be introduced in the next session of Parliament. Many of the criticisms received had been of a constructive nature, Mr Rifkind said and he promised that many of the views would be taken into account.

He emphasized that he did not believe the answer to be a local income tax. That, he said, would leave almost half the electorate free of any responsibility for funding the costs of local services.

Director phones car thief

A company managing director tried to persuade a thief to return his stolen Jaguar XJS, worth £15,000, by talking to the driver on the telephone in the car.

Mr Darren Parkes, whose company is in Solihull, West Midlands, said yesterday: "I was amazed when he answered and said 'Hello, can I help you?' The car was found seven miles away. Police have interviewed two youths."

Top clearance for coroner

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, Lord Chancellor, has rejected allegations of incompetence made by Derbyshire County Council against Britain's oldest coroner.

Mr Michael Swanwick, aged 80, who has held inquests at Chesterfield for 40 years, said that the council, not having the power to dismiss him, had asked the Lord Chancellor to do so, after accepting complaints from next-of-kin.

Rape charges

Two boys aged 14 from Hackney and a printer aged 16 from Clapton, east London, were remanded in care until August 14 by Hackney Juvenile Court yesterday accused of raping a woman aged 18 on July 29. Twin brothers aged 12 are being questioned by police about the incident.

Bad fortune

A barman who faked an inheritance was arrested when he tried to open a building society account with a £63,000 cheque, written to impress his girl friend, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday. David Milligan, aged 32, of Fleet Road, north-west London, was jailed for 15 months.

Farm injury

Andrew Moderski, aged 33, a farmworker, was severely injured when he was trapped for 40 minutes in a grain drying machine with a cutting blade embedded in his back at Clayton's Farm, Mayfield, East Sussex, yesterday.

Murder walk

Pauline Trubshaw, a police-woman, will retrace tonight the final steps of Diane Sindall, aged 21, who was murdered in Birkhead, Merseyside, last Friday, in an attempt to trace the killer.

Director out

Mr Yuri Grigorovich, artistic director of the Bolshoi Theatre, has left a London hospital after treatment for stomach pains, apparently caused by food poisoning.

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People turning a blind eye to thriving 'black economy', poll claims

By David Walker

Nearly one person in four knows someone working in the "black economy" while claiming unemployment benefit, a Harris poll disclosed yesterday.

The poll, for a group of businessmen called the Committee for Research into Public Attitudes, found widespread acceptance that many of those on the unemployment register are working.

At the same time government unemployment figures are doubted, with 38 per cent of the population believing they are higher than stated.

The survey, based on a sample of 1,030 adults, found evidence that the "black economy" is big, but much less well organized than commonly thought.

More than a third of the population has at some time employed someone and paid cash — a sign that income may

not be declared to the Inland Revenue.

Among younger men (aged 18 to 24) 34 per cent said they had done some work for cash. Younger age groups were more sympathetic towards the cash-in-hand economy. Of the unemployed, 57 per cent said there was nothing wrong with working for money in hand and not declaring the income.

Acquaintances of the sample who were drawing unemployment or other benefits while working for cash were said to be getting jobs in the building trade, decorating, driving or cleaning.

The Committee for Research into Public Attitudes is chaired by Lord Plowden, an industrialist and former Civil Servant. It raises money from big companies for opinion polls.

In a statement accompanying the results, the committee

said they showed that large numbers of people should not be included in the unemployment figures. The unemployed — defined as those desperate for work, looking for a job and unable to find one — totalled only one million, less than a third of the official figure.

It calculated that some 350,000 people were drawing unemployment benefit while working for cash. In addition some 600,000 people — one in five of the officially unemployed — could only get such poorly paid work that they were better off unemployed.

The public's attitude, according to the results, was that the government should make it easier for such people to take jobs, not by cutting their benefit but by subsidizing firms to employ them. Nearly three out of four people said they would be willing to pay more tax to fund such a scheme.

The public believes there should be a gap between what people could earn if they had a job and what is available through social security.

BENEFIT SURVEY

Do you agree that doing social benefit should be cut to encourage people to work?											
Total (%)											
Age (%)											
Class (%)											
Do not know											
Agree	18	11	17	24	21	22	22	18	18	18	18
Disagree	15	15	8	24	18	20	9	19	13	13	13

Hazards on the roads

'Thrombosis' on motorways

By Mark Ellis

Inaccurate forecasts of lorry traffic on Britain's motorways are mistakes for which motorists and the Government are counting the cost, it was claimed yesterday.

Mr Arthur Large, chief executive of the Royal Automobile Club's motoring services, said that the 1,700-mile network was threatened by a severe attack of "traffic thrombosis" as more miles of motorway were repaired.

Trouble spots he highlighted were sections of the M6 near Preston, opened as Britain's first motorway in

1958; the M62 in Greater Manchester; the M6 north of Birmingham; and the M25 London orbital road, which is already showing signs of overcrowding before its completion later in the year.

Mr Large, speaking in Manchester, said official figures predicted that traffic could increase by more than 40 per cent within the next 15 years. He said it was vital that planners, when calculating motorway capacity, took into account the large sections of motorway being repaired and maintained. "It does not ap-

pear this is being done and the result is chaos for drivers on those numerous parts of the motorway network undergoing repairs," Mr Large said.

The Department of Transport admitted that forecasts for heavy goods traffic were seriously underestimated when they were drawn up and the switching of freight away from rail to road during the 1970s, as well as a dramatic growth in lorry traffic, could not have been foreseen.

Government figures show that even though motorways constitute only one per cent of the roads they carry 28 per cent of all heavy freight.

The continual pounding from lorries is blamed for causing the rapid deterioration of motorways, which have an average 15 year lifespan.

The Department of Trade said the problems on the motorways might not be as bad as Mr Large predicted, in spite of this year's £83 million maintenance programme.

Both the main motoring organisations, the RAC and the Automobile Association, blame poor forecasting, low investment and a lack of planning of repairs for the problems on motorways.

Tailbacks and congestion on the M25 reflect the heavier than forecast volume of traffic, about 115,000 vehicles a day compared with 75,000, and it is believed the forecasting was based largely on long-distance traffic use and seriously underestimated the volume of motorists using the route for short journeys.



Canon Derek Green, the village rector, in front of the Saxon tower of All Saints Church

Squire to sell home and village

By Michael Horsnell

Tied cottagers in the pre-Norman settlement of South Pickenham, Norfolk, are anxiously debating their future because the village squire has decided to sell their homes.

Mr Guy Moreton, aged 82, the estate owner, whose family has lived at Pickenham Hall since 1925, expects the sale of his home and the village to fetch up to £10 million.

With the 16-bedroom country house will go 3,547 acres of prime shooting and farmland, as well as 16 cottages, and the village post office.

The villagers are too anxious about what the sale will mean to them to talk openly to strangers, although the law would prevent their eviction. Tenants on the estate have not



Pickenham Hall, on the Moreton family estate which is being sold (Photographs: Harry Kerr)

been offered the opportunity to buy their homes.

On the estate, where the West Norfolk Hunt meets once a season, a butler, groom and other household staff support the image of a bygone England. The 80 villagers, half the population of a few decades ago, are reminders of the less graceful side of the rural past.

Only Canon Derek Green, rector of the Pickenhams, would talk about the sale of the Pickenham Hall estate, near Swaffham.

"I would hope that the estate will be purchased by someone who will develop village life, revive the community, and help agriculture grow," he said.

"There are people, farm labourers, whose livelihood is involved and they are anxious about what will happen."

Mr Moreton was not available for comment yesterday.

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"I would hope that the estate will be purchased by someone who will develop village life, revive the community, and help agriculture grow," he said.

"There are people, farm labourers, whose livelihood is involved and they are anxious about what will happen."

Mr Moreton was not available for comment yesterday.

Sex trap 'to teach man a lesson'

A typist aged 29 who lured her employer into bed while her sister took pictures of them naked together, did it to teach him a lesson for sexually harassing her at work, a court was told yesterday.

The two women later took the photographs to the home of Mr X, threatening to show

them to members of the synagogue where he worshipped. Isleworth Crown Court in west London was told.

But he went to the police, who provided him with a hidden microphone when a meeting was arranged in a car park. Officers hiding in a

horse box heard the typist demand £5,000 for the return of the photographs, it was alleged.

The typist, aged 29, her boy friend and her sister, aged 19, all deny conspiring to blackmail Mr X. The judge ruled that he was not to be identified. The case continues.

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30	34	2,128	1,330	1,596	2,128
35	39	2,123	1,127	1,592	2,123
40	44	2,111	1,121	1,583	2,111
45	49	2,089	1,100	1,567	2,089
50	54	2,061	1,094	1,546	2,041
55	59	2,034	1,080	1,526	1,912
60	64	2,012	1,068	1,509	1,670
65	69	1,973	1,049	1,481	1,432
70-79	74-79	1,975	1,049	1,481	1,405
FOR A MONTHLY INVESTMENT OF £50					
18-28	18-32	45,482	12,916	14,117	15,257
30	34	4,489	2,915	3,177	3,489
35	39	4,476	2,908	3,167	3,476
40	44	4,445	2,891	3,154	3,445
45	49	4,398	2,861	3,141	3,398
50	54	4,339	2,824	3,098	3,263
55	59	4,259	2,788	3,038	3,176
60	64	4,198	2,740	3,009	3,157
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Debut for Sophocles trilogy

By Gavin Bell, Arts Correspondent

The first televised production of the Theban plays of Sophocles, the tragic trilogy based on the Oedipus legend, will be broadcast by BBC-2 next month as the classical highlight of a new drama season.

Michael Pennington and Sir Anthony Quayle play the role of Oedipus, young and older, the man-cursed by the gods when they foretold he would murder his father and marry his mother.

Sir John Gielgud celebrated his eightieth birthday while acting the part of Teiresias in *Antigone*, the first part of the trilogy to be filmed, two years ago.

Mr Louis Marks, the producer, said that the pro-

gramme makers had resisted the temptation to modernize the work, written 2,500 years ago, because it was felt that would cheapen the production and reduce its dramatic effect.

"The classical approach using masks was also considered unrealistic for television, so we went for a robust, modern reading of the original text. The idea was to try to get the authentic Sophocles to speak to the audiences of today."

Each of the plays was filmed essentially as one performance, with mistakes patched up later with cut-away shots. "It was very tough on the actors," Mr Marks said.

The trilogy, translated and directed by Don Taylor, will be presented on three separate

nights during the week beginning September 14. It has already been sold to an American network.

Theatre Night, to be launched on the same channel next spring, will feature plays by Ibsen, Pinter, Shaw and Joe Orton.

A new series of BBC-2 films includes *Blam*, in which Ian Richardson portrays the Keeper of the Queen's Pictures who masterminded the departure of the fellow spies Gray Burgess and Donald MacLean for the Soviet Union in 1951.

BBC-1 has an offering from the Scottish writer, John Byrne, author of *Writers' Cramp* and *The Slab Boys*, about an ageing rock band on a jubilee memorial tour of Scotland.

Secretary told she 'lined her own pockets'

A secretary who disclosed details of alleged company cash frauds to shareholders was accused of "lining her own pockets" by an industrial tribunal chairman yesterday.

Mrs Elizabeth Byford, who claims she was dismissed from her £40,000-a-year job for "whistleblowing" on a plot by directors to use £90,000 of the firm's own money to take control, admitted that she had received annual expenses of £1,000 to £2,000.

Mr Lyn Mostyn, the tribunal chairman, said: "It really rather looks as if you wanted to jump on the same bandwagon as the other directors were on. You were asking for a decent meal, a car and a holiday, and you spent £2,000 a year in expenses which is precisely what you were complaining about the directors' doing."



Mrs Byford

"Mr Mostyn also criticized Mrs Byford for passing information to the minority shareholders, after claiming that she had been 'instructed' to do so by the company founder on his deathbed.

Mrs Byford, aged 40, of Putney Hill, south-west London, is seeking compensation for unfair dismissal. The tribunal reserved judgement until September.

Police swoops recoup £9m in car taxes

More than £9 million in car tax was recouped after police swoops in the South-east during May (Michael Bailey writes).

They reported more than 9,000 motorists many of whom now face court appearances.

The swoops were in London, Surrey, and Sussex and were part of a campaign to catch car tax dodgers that has been going on for five years.

The police conduct spot checks on traffic and intensive surveys of vehicles.

More than £21 million was recovered in the last financial year, and between £50 million and £100 million since the campaign began.

The May operation yielded £6.5 million from 88,000 tax evaders in the London area. Checks are now going on in Essex.

TV drama

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Director phones car thief

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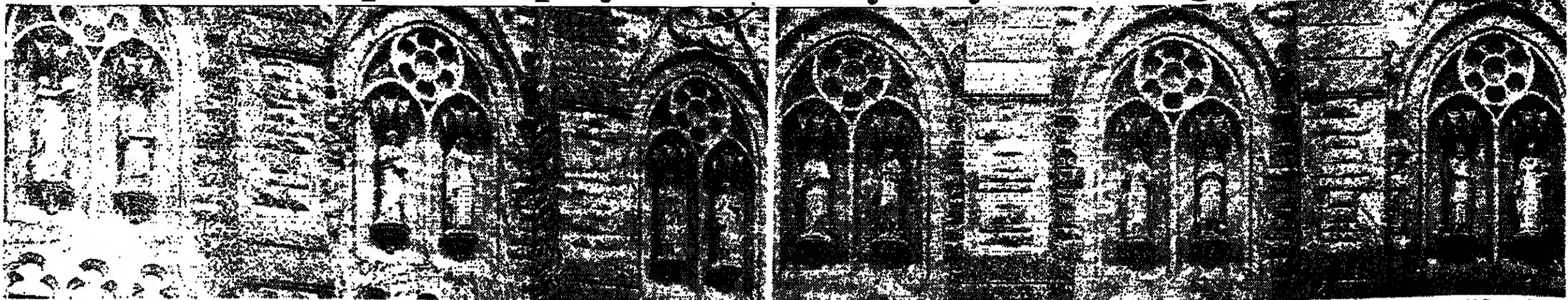
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Twelve women patriots play truant in mystery of missing college statues



The missing patriots (from left) Miriam, Deborah, Cornelia, Boadicea, Bathildis, Hilda, Saint Elizabeth, Queen Blanche, Catherine of Siena, Joan of Arc, Chand Beebee and Louise of Prussia.

By David Sapsted

SDP proposes to end A levels and raise student levels by 30%

By Sheila Gunn, Political Staff

The scrapping of A levels, free education for part-time students, and a 30 per cent rise in student numbers by 1995, were proposed by the Social Democratic Party yesterday.

These were some of the party's recommendations for an overhaul of higher education outlined in its paper, *A New Vision for Higher Education*.

The paper says that unless urgent steps are taken Britain will be at a grave disadvantage compared with international competitors because too few people will be educated beyond the age of 16.

The document is to be debated at the SDP's annual conference next month.

It shows that only 32-40 per cent of 16 to 24-year-olds in Britain are still in college,

compared with 73 per cent in the United States, 54 per cent in Japan, and 45 per cent in West Germany.

Part of the blame lies with the present A-level examination system, it says.

"This is highly academic, specialized to an extent that is unique in the world, and controlled by examination boards that are themselves controlled by the universities."

"Some 22 per cent of the age group take these examinations and some 15 per cent pass in the two or more subjects that is the minimum qualification for entry to a degree course. Of those who pass, the lower grades of pass are commonly regarded by the universities at least as 'poor calibre'."

"Thus we see a picture of intense competition, high fail-

ure rates which leave several thousand relatively able young people every year with no qualifications to show for two years' education and a climate of some discouragement and disengagement for all but the high fliers."

The document suggests replacing A levels with a broader qualification covering both arts and science subjects which would be under the control of a new body.

It also calls for a merger between the Department of Education and Science and the training functions of the Manpower Services Commission.

Such a move is being considered by the Government.

It raises doubts about the present system of student grants, but concludes that there are strong arguments

against all the other options.

The proposals could not be achieved for less than £1,000 million, on top of the current higher education budget of £3,400 million a year.

Because of this, part-time higher education should be the priority, the paper says.

Money could also be saved by bringing in a qualification after two years of higher education, it says.

The party is already committed to increasing the science budget by at least £50 million.

"However daunting the cost of expanding higher education, it is important to see the cost in the context of our continuing high levels of youth unemployment," the paper says.

Youth scheme 'is failing disabled'

By Jill Sherman

Youth Training Schemes (YTS) are failing to meet the needs of school leavers with disabilities, the Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation (Radar) says.

A survey carried out jointly with the Institute of Careers Officers shows that training staff know little about the implications of disabling conditions, and are unable to provide appropriate training, or help trainees overcome difficulties.

Radar has called for mandatory training in the needs of those with disabilities for all staff on youth training schemes.

The survey also shows that off-the-job training in further education colleges is often unsuitable for young people with sensory impairments and is unrelated to the practical

side of the work.

The report says that the inability to provide suitable off-the-job training often provoked trainees to leave courses prematurely.

The survey shows that only a third of all youth scheme trainees with special needs find jobs, while a third go on to other courses, extended YTS or into sheltered employment. The rest were unemployed with no specified provision arranged.

The Manpower Services Commission emphasized that improvements in the youth training scheme for the disabled were introduced in April, including permanent additional funding, a personal reader service for blind trainees and a communication service for the deaf.

Heathrow visitors 'may riot'

Proposed industrial action by immigration officers at Heathrow Airport on the August Bank holiday could lead to riots, an MP said yesterday.

Mr Max Madden, Labour MP for Bradford West, said officers were ashamed of the conditions in which visitors were held for questioning, and angry about their own working conditions.

The Home Office's provision of hotel rooms for visitors awaiting clearance when airport centres were full did not reduce the threat, he said.

He added that the action could bring parts of the airport to a standstill within hours, and said: "We may have a situation where frustrated visitors will simply storm the immigration counters and gain access into Britain without any checks at all."

That would create the gravest possible situation, he said, as immigration controls provided the first line of defence against terrorism, drug trafficking and entry of undesirable people into Britain.

He has taken his criticism to Mr David Waddington, Minister of State at the Home Office, and has demanded an inquiry into the way visitors are treated.

"They sometimes have to wait for as much as 24 hours without food, drink or sanitation. This includes nursing mothers and small children and it is a public scandal that people should be treated in this way."

"The Government is certainly guilty of maladministration."

Cheltenham Ladies' College, Gloucestershire, launched a nationwide appeal yesterday, in an attempt to trace 12 statues that once graced the school buildings but have not been seen for more than 50 years.

The 4ft statues of patriotic women, crafted in 1883 by a local sculptor, H H Martyn, were placed in a garden during alterations in 1934. Their fate has since remained a mystery.

"Frankly, nobody really bothered about them until recently. Now we are engaged in efforts to restore our buildings but, despite searching high and low, we can find no trace," Mr Anthony Siddall, the bursar, said.

The college wants to hear from anyone, particularly old girls, who might be able to solve the mystery. Reports that some of the figures were stored in extensive vaults beneath the college buildings proved fruitless after a search by staff. Others were said to be buried somewhere in the 30-acre school grounds at the start of the Second World War.

"All we know for sure is that, when the garden's store was demolished in 1949, they were not there. With about 100 statues of various sizes dotted about the college, it must have been difficult to keep track of them," Mr Siddall said.

The missing statues are of the laudable Miriam and Deborah, chanting songs of victory; Cornelia, the mother of Gracchi, standing beside Boadicea; Bathildis, slave maids in hand, next to Hilda holding a model of Whitby Abbey; St Elizabeth of Hungary, with roses, and Queen Blanche, the mother of St Louis; Catherine of Siena standing beside Joan of Arc; and Chand Beebee, noble queen of Benares, next to Louise of Prussia.

Solicitors fined for 'joke' advert

Six partners in an old-established solicitors' firm, whose eye-catching press advertising campaign displeased the Law Society, were fined £100 each yesterday for a breach of professional practice rules.

The advertisements inserted by Jefferies, of Southend, Essex, included a "joke" entry form for "the competition" and went on to say: "There isn't any". The firm admitted at a Solicitors' Disciplinary Tribunal in London that the advertisement read as if it was claiming to offer a service superior to that of other firms, which is against society guidelines.

Another advertisement, based on one used by the Law Society, was headed: "Don't you wish you had used Jefferies to do your conveyancing?" It included a drawing of a house surrounded by mechanical excavators and bulldozers, apparently removing the garden.

This was in breach of the same rule, although the tribunal accepted that the intention was to indicate that solicitors would do the job better than unqualified conveyancers.

The firm's advertising campaign, from December 1984 to

June 1985, was discontinued after objections, and an indication from its accountants that there had been no increase in the work attracted.

The partners who were fined were Mr Frank Lockhart, Mr Alan Gershlick, Mr Trevor Helm, Miss Jill Dukes, Mr Robin Morrison and Mr Paul Singer.

● The tribunal ordered three solicitors to be struck off.

Mr Roland Aka, of Hornsey Rise Gardens, Upper Holloway, north London, was found to have broken solicitors' accounts rules and been convicted of making false statements in value-added tax returns and passport applications.

Mr Alan Roberts, of Elm Grove Road, Dinas Powis, South Glamorgan, was found guilty of breaches of accounts rules and of practising without a certificate and while uninsured.

Mr George Street, of Hoylake Road, Moreton, Wirral, was found to have practised while disqualified, failed to deal promptly with certain business and had been convicted of offences under the Finance Act. He was said to be in ill-health.

The tribunal also ordered Mr Vivian Jenkins to be restored to the solicitors' roll.



With 56 million mouths to feed, what's to stop this happening?

That the picture above might become reality doesn't bear thinking about.

But it won't happen, thanks largely to the efficiency of today's farming.

We have around 8 million more people to feed now than in 1945. Yet rather than gobble up more land to feed them, we in fact use thousands of acres less for food production. So thanks to fertilizers, and associated advances, we now not only produce virtually all the food we need, but can also conserve more land for leisure and other uses.

Producing food and enriching the environment.

Concern for our environment is vital: farmers themselves play as important a part as anyone in protecting it.

They live and work on the land: their livelihood depends on it.

The unpublicised majority of them are

more and more actively seeking positive ways to enrich it, planting more trees and enlarging existing wildlife habitats. Around 7 million new trees were planted on English and Welsh farms last year.

In fact, FWAG (The Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group) was invited by a further 3,000 farmers in 1985 to visit their farms and provide conservation advice.

And while they're caring for the land, they're growing enough food for all the rest of us, and others too. In 1984, our exports of livestock and other food produce amounted to something like £4 billion, putting farming high in the top league of exporters.

The important role played by fertilizers.

The proper use of fertilizers benefits the soil, returning natural elements vital for healthy crop growth.

They help maintain an ample food supply to sustain our population, and play their part in allowing the landscape to be conserved.

That's why ICI Agricultural Division takes pride in being Britain's leading manufacturer of fertilizers.

It's also why the picture above won't become a reality.

You are invited to write to us for more information on the issues raised in this advertisement.

Please contact Mrs. Diane York at ICI Agricultural Division, PO Box 1, Billingham, Cleveland TS23 1LB.



FERTILIZERS
Helping nature - and Britain - to grow.

As a major supplier to agriculture, ICI Agricultural Division is running this series of advertisements, designed to increase public awareness both of the role of fertilizers in modern farming and of other key issues involved in the production of British food. Many of the facts presented here will be familiar to the farming community, but we believe we have a responsibility to help keep the general public fully informed on these major and complex issues.

Labour costs may lure Japanese car makers

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

More Japanese motor manufacturers are expected to follow Nissan's lead and build car factories in Britain to take advantage of low labour costs, according to a new report on the European motor industry.

It quotes hourly labour costs of £4.40 in Britain. Only Spain, of the nine European and Scandinavian countries producing cars, is cheaper at £3.66.

The report, prepared for Sewells International management consultants by the motor industry research team at East Anglia University, calculates that the Japanese can save more than £400 a car by building in Britain. It suggests that the increasingly strong yen and fierce price-cutting in Europe are depressing profits on many Japanese car exports to the point where they are only breaking even.

Action by European governments to redress their trade balance with Japan is said to be another powerful influence for establishing local assembly plants, or entering into more collaborative ventures

similar to the successful partnership between Austin Rover and Honda.

The authors consider that in spite of its very low labour costs Spain has a serious drawback - the Spanish Government's opposition to more car production.

Mr Ronald Sewell, chairman of Sewells International, said last night: "This report confirms the underlying problems in the motor industry in Europe today. With so many mergers and co-operation agreements it will become even more difficult for an individual manufacturer to survive."

"Motor traders in Britain become increasingly concerned by the competition among manufacturers. The next few years in the motor industry will be of great consequence in Britain and throughout Europe."

The European Motor Manufacturers: Profiles, Strategies and Options (Sewells International, 1 Queen Street, Bath, Avon, £125).

South African sanctions crisis

Steel and coal ban could cost 50,000 jobs, say employers

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Joint action by the EEC, the United States and Japan to ban imports of South African coal, steel and iron ore could deprive Pretoria of nearly 3 billion rand (£790 million) in export earnings and put some 50,000 people, most of them blacks, out of work.

This is the first, tentative calculation by industry sources here of the possible impact of the economic sanctions that now seem in prospect after the decisions taken at this week's meeting in London between Britain and six other Commonwealth countries.

It is a worst-case scenario, in that it assumes the Commonwealth measures will be reinforced by similar action by the United States and Japan, and that there will be no "leakage" or "holes" in their enforcement. Water-tight sanctions are, in fact, unlikely given past experience.

Coal is by far the most vulnerable sector. In 1985, South Africa exported 44 million tons, worth 3.14 billion rand in foreign exchange, of its total production of 173 million tons, according to the Chamber of Mines.

The bulk of these exports were sold to the EEC which, it is estimated, took 22 million tons, and Japan, which accounted for 8.5 million tons. The rest went mainly to the

United States, Korea, Taiwan and black-ruled African countries.

In a statement last month, the Chamber of Mines claimed that 35 per cent of the 110,000 people employed in the coal industry, of whom 95,000 are black, could lose their jobs if all these foreign markets were lost to South Africa.

It also said that collieries had "started with contingency plans to retrench employees in the near future", owing to a 17 per cent drop in export sales so far this year, and the impact of unilateral bans already imposed on South African coal by France and Denmark.

The chairman of the coal division of Rand Mines, Mr Allen Sealey, said that South Africa might have to find new markets for nearly 26 million tons of its coal exports as a result of sanctions.

This estimate assumed that South Africa would be shut out of the EEC market, would lose sales of 800,000 tons a year in the United States and about three million tons of the 8.5 million tons it sold to Japan last year.

The opportunities for finding other outlets for these exports — the Far East being the most likely target area — were limited, he said. "I have

difficulty in seeing a major portion of these tonnages being sold at any price, however low."

South African coal is already being sold on international markets at a discount of about 10 per cent, and some industry sources here calculate that an export volume of 30 million tons a year could be preserved by increasing the discount to as much as 30 per cent.

The low value of the rand, and lower labour costs than most of its competitors, put South Africa in a relatively strong position from which to wage a price-cutting war. There is, however, a limit on how far coal producers here can cut prices and still meet freight and other costs.

The scope for sanctions-busting is more limited than in the case of some other commodities, industry sources here say. South African coal has specific properties which make it difficult to disguise its origin.

In addition, much of South Africa's exported coal is sold to public utilities abroad. This means that it would be impossible to circumvent sanctions unless foreign governments themselves connived in the evasion.

Steel exports, which have

risen sharply in recent years because of reduced local demand and now account for about 40 per cent of steel production, had been budgeted to earn Iscor, the state-run iron and steel corporation, and its private competitors some 1.5 billion rand this year.

Iscor's public relations manager, Mr Piet Du Plessis, described the EEC and North America as "important markets". It would be "difficult, but not impossible" to replace them elsewhere. "It is not a seller's market at the moment. We will have to look wherever we can."

Private-sector spokesmen are more pessimistic. "There aren't many other outlets", said one. Analysts here reckon that South Africa stands to lose at least 300 million rand a year in steel exports, and that exports of iron ore and pig iron valued at 354 million rand in 1984 could be wiped out by sanctions.

If sanctions were extended to South Africa's fruit exports, the consequences could be serious. About 75 per cent of fresh fruit exports go to the EEC, with Britain the biggest customer. Last year, South Africa exported 305,000 tons of fresh deciduous fruit, worth 473 million rand.



Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany and his wife, Hannelore, enjoying an outing on the lake at the holiday resort of St. Gilgen on the Wolfgangsee.

Mitterrand pays visit to airborne firefighters

From Susan Macdonald, Paris

President Mitterrand paid a surprise visit yesterday to the airborne firefighting division, stationed at Marignane in the south of France.

Composed of 52 pilots and 30 mechanics equipped with DC6s and eight small tracker aircraft, they work in conjunction with ground firefighting teams to control fires which rage through thousands of acres of forests every summer.

This is the first time a president has visited the force since its creation in 1963. President Mitterrand said he had come to see their working conditions, equipment and way of doing things.

Two members of the force have died while fighting fires in the past two years, including four men whose plane hit a mountain in the Pyrenees three weeks ago in high winds.

As a consequence of this accident the men threatened to strike if a review of their working conditions and equipment was not carried out.

President Mitterrand was taken up in a Canadair for a sea landing and water reservoir refilling operation. He said afterwards that he supported their claims for greater recognition.

This year so far, forest fires have destroyed thousands of acres along the Côte d'Azur. Many of the fires are started deliberately.

The Justice Minister, Mr Alain Chandon, has announced that volunteer prisoners will be used in September to clear the undergrowth before next year's dry season.

The Agriculture Minister, Mr François Guillaume, announced yesterday that he was naming an inspector-general to co-ordinate all relief operations to combat the increasingly serious drought affecting central and south-west France.

● HUESCA: More fires broke out yesterday in the Spanish Pyrenees region of Huesca, where about 7,500 acres of pine forest and scrubland have been destroyed in the past week (Reuters reports).

Firefighters struggled against strong winds which have spread the flames over an 11-mile front.

Colombia to carry on drug campaign

From Geoffrey Matthews, Bogotá

Colombia's new President, Señor Virgilio Barco Vargas, yesterday re-affirmed the nation's commitment to the mounting war on the international cocaine racket.

He made the declaration when he met the US Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, a few hours before his inauguration yesterday.

But earlier, in an informal meeting with foreign journalists, making a clear reference to the recent anti-drug "Operation Blast Furnace" in Bolivia, Señor Barco firmly ruled out the use of foreign troops in Colombia.

In the Bolivian operation, the Government allowed US troops and agents from the US Drug Enforcement Administration to help the local drug-enforcement unit to seek out and destroy cocaine-processing factories.

Colombia has earned high praise from Washington for its efforts to eradicate drug trafficking.

Under the administration of Señor Barco's predecessor, Señor Belisario Betancur, coca and marijuana crops were sprayed with pesticides and strict import controls were imposed on key chemicals required for the processing of cocaine.

Also several leading drug bosses were extradited to the United States under a treaty designed to bring international traffickers to justice. Señor Barco told Mr Shultz that Colombia would continue to implement the extradition treaty and to accept aid from Washington so that its own security forces could

pursue the campaign to crush the drug racket.

In his meeting with foreign journalists, Señor Barco also hinted that the time might be ripe for re-opening diplomatic relations with Cuba, severed in 1981 after a big operation by the April 19 guerrilla movement (M-19).

Bogotá claimed that the guerrillas had been trained and armed in Cuba. It is thought that Havana has since withdrawn all support from M-19.

Señor Barco also favours Cuba's admission to the Organization of American States.

The new President again emphasized that his Government's main priority would be to eradicate "absolute poverty" through the creation of jobs and public works to improve the living conditions of the urban and rural poor.

Colombia will continue to play an active role in the Contadora group to achieve peace in Central America, he said.

Security was tight in Bogotá because officers that guerrilla groups might stage some disruptive action to mark the inauguration.

Two former members of M-19 who accepted official pardons under the previous Government's amnesty programme have been granted political asylum in the Swiss Embassy here, claiming that they have been threatened by right-wing death squads.

They are expected to be allowed to leave the country within a few days.

Eta protest against Paris turns violent

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

More than 30 people, including 10 policemen, were injured early yesterday in a riot during violent demonstrations against France's decision to hand over suspected members of the separatist organization Eta to the Spanish police.

The usually staid Basque capital was celebrating its annual fiesta and as a result thousands of locals and visitors were caught up in the demonstrations and police charges.

The violence, which lasted for several hours, began at midnight when petrol bombs were thrown at the offices of the Civil Governor, the Madrid Government's representative in the region, from a crowd of about 2,000 stone-throwing Eta sympathizers.

The Governor accused the organizers, who belonged to groups campaigning for the release of Eta men held in Spanish jails, of bringing in troublemakers from Bilbao and San Sebastian.

Five lost in French lifeboat disaster

Brest (Reuters) — French rescuers found one body and were searching for four missing crew members of a lifeboat lost off the Brittany coast, rescue service sources said.

Debris from the lifeboat was found in the Aber-Wrach estuary on the north-west Breton coast where it had gone to help a small sailing boat.

Weather conditions were moderate overnight and rescuers said they did not know the cause of the accident.

Indian rail rescue

Delhi (Reuters) — Rescuers working in a flood-swept north Indian ravine freed the last survivors yesterday of a train wreck that killed 45 people.

Teams of doctors rushed to the site near Dhanbad, about 125 miles south of the Bihar state capital Patna.

Sydney storm damage tour

Sydney (Reuters) — Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister, toured the devastated suburbs of Sydney where six people were killed and thousands forced to flee their homes after record rainfall.

Four suburbs have been declared disaster areas and Mr Hawke and Mr Barry Unsworth, the New South Wales Premier, promised compensation for flood victims.

Rapists held

Peking (Reuters) — Police have arrested four train stewards on charges of raping passengers on long-distance journeys, the China Legal News reported.

Briton killed

Barcelona (AP) — Andrew Jones, a British tourist from Wales, aged 19, died after falling from the window of an apartment building in Calella, a resort north of here, a British consular official said.

Swiss festival

Locarno (AP) — The International Locarno Film Festival opened yesterday with 12 world premieres among 17 entries in the main competition. About 170 non-competition movies are to run during the festival, including open-air showings of "Films of the Year".

Aids deaths

Nairobi (AP) — Aids has killed 92 people in Tanzania's capital, Dar es Salaam, during the past year, the Kenyan newspaper Daily News reported.

Flights hit

Colombo (Reuters) — Swissair has joined five other airlines that are either reducing flights to Sri Lanka or stopping operations here altogether because of a drop in tourism.

Jumped ship

Cleveland, Ohio (Reuters) — A crewman from a Polish cargo ship has applied for political asylum at an immigration office in Cleveland, a US Senate official said.

Refugee plea

Madrid (Reuters) — Seven Romanian seamen have asked for refugee status in Spain's Canary Islands, police said.

Video claim

Tokyo (Reuters) — Three-dimensional (3-D) movie technology will be the next home video fad, Japanese electronics makers said.

Zambians 'beat up' tourists

Lusaka (Reuters) — Six Swiss and Austrian tourists, arrested on suspicion of spying for South Africa, were severely beaten by Zambian police demanding confessions, an Austrian Embassy spokesman said yesterday.

She said at least one of the group, who were travelling across Africa when they were arrested on July 24 in the northern Zambian town of Nakonde, had been forced to confess to being a spy for Pretoria.

The five Swiss and one Austrian, including a couple and two women, came to Zambia from South Africa through Zimbabwe and Malawi. The spokeswoman said she visited them in prison and found one of the Swiss men very nervous and frightened.

All six, in their 20s and 30s, were beaten and threatened, and a Swiss woman confessed she was a South African spy after being blindfolded and driven around in a car for several hours, she said. She declined to name the detainees.

Their treatment improved considerably after the embassy protested, and they were moved from the police station where they were being held.

Austria was telling its citizens to avoid visiting Zambia except for urgent business because of police harassment of foreigners and paranoia about South African spies.

The spokeswoman said an Austrian woman arrested separately last month had confessed under torture that she was a South African spy but was freed last week.

Three British students who were crossing Africa overland were also freed last week after being held for about a week in northern Kasama prison.

British diplomats said they were considering advising Britons not to visit Zambia except on essential business.

Zambia has been on high alert against spies and saboteurs since a South African air raid on an alleged guerrilla base near Lusaka on May 19.

Zambian officials say the target was in fact a refugee transit camp and was completely unconnected with the African National Congress, which has its headquarters in Lusaka.

Northern Zambia seems especially tense because the Chinese-built Tazara railway linking Zambia with the East African coast goes through this region, and President Kaunda has warned of a possible South African invasion from the north.

Shultz insists on seeking peaceful end to apartheid

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Washington will not allow frustrations and setbacks to hamper its attempts to find a negotiated end to apartheid in South Africa, Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State.

Resolutely opposing strong punitive sanctions against Pretoria, he told reporters: "You're not going to get me to say we are going to throw up our hands and leave. We have to stick with it, even though the outlook may not look good."

In his first public comment on the South African crisis since the Commonwealth meeting at the weekend, Mr Shultz said he was not surprised at South Africa's counter-sanctions against Zimbabwe and Zambia.

"It shouldn't have been any surprise. It's always been a puzzle to me that when I meet members of Congress or foreign ministers from countries supporting strong sanctions, when I ask them what they are prepared to do about the problems that will be created in southern Africa, there is a profound silence."

Israelis send team to Pretoria

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

An Israeli delegation, led by Finance Ministry officials, left for South Africa last night on a mission "to maintain links with the Jewish community" there, which is estimated to be around 110,000 strong.

During its stay, the delegation is to negotiate the renewal of arrangements for the transfer of funds to Israel. Money from the relatively wealthy South African Jews makes a significant annual contribution to Israel's economy.

The mission also is to seek the renewal of arrangements which allow Israeli boats to fish off the South African coast and for the importation of South African coal.

Mr Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister, said this week that Israel was not considering imposing sanctions on South Africa, as it was too insignificant a trading partner for this to have any effect.

Since tension has been increasing there, however, Jews living in South Africa have been under increasing pressure from Jerusalem to emigrate to Israel.

"It's a tragic situation, but it's the kind of situation that dictates that you have to work on the possibilities, even if they're not probabilities. You have to try to raise the possibilities into probabilities."

Mr Shultz criticized the white minority Government in Pretoria for imposing a

state of emergency after saying it wanted to negotiate with black leaders. He called the process "very frustrating", taking one step forwards and one backwards.

Nevertheless, he voiced

reservations about the exiled King of the African National Congress, which the Reagan Administration regards as Communist-influenced. But he said he was ready to meet Mr Oliver Tambo, the ANC leader, whom he regards as a moderate.

Meanwhile, American Roman Catholic bishops have written to senators expressing their support for limited sanctions. Failure to take such measures, they said, would be "morally indefensible".

Their letter was sent just before the Senate foreign relations committee voted for sanctions last Friday, but it has just been made public.

US Catholics have taken a more cautious view of the South African crisis than their Protestant counterparts, who have strongly endorsed the sweeping measures already voted for by the House of Representatives. Bishop Desmond Tutu, the South African Anglican leader, has forged close links with many church leaders here.

A spokesman for American Catholics said South African Catholics had opposed pressures that would destroy the country's economy. But Monsignor Daniel Hoge, general secretary of the US Catholic Conference, told Senators: "A policy of moral and political appeasement of those who promote and acquiesce in systematic discrimination would relegate us to the sidelines in the worldwide struggle for human rights."

The Reagan Administration has been further embarrassed by its failure to find a black willing to take the job of US Ambassador to Pretoria. The latest front-runner, Mr Terence Todman, the US Ambassador to Denmark, has reportedly declined.

The Administration's somewhat transparent attempt at symbolic support for the black majority has backfired and led to accusations here of tokenism without a real change in policy.

Mr Todman, aged 60, said he had called the meeting to dispel what he called "fabricated stories" in the American media that had blown to "unbelievable proportions" rumours of his supposed candidacy for the Pretoria post.

He would not, however, be drawn on the question of whether or not he had actually been offered the post. "I would accept the post if I felt I could do it," he said.

Mr Shultz refuses to throw up his hands and leave. He said he was not surprised at South Africa's counter-sanctions against Zimbabwe and Zambia.

"It shouldn't have been any surprise. It's always been a puzzle to me that when I meet members of Congress or foreign ministers from countries supporting strong sanctions, when I ask them what they are prepared to do about the problems that will be created in southern Africa, there is a profound silence."

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Italy touched by plight of 'sleeping-bag people'

From Peter Nichols, Rome

The purpose of the sleeping bag is obvious enough, but the question of where young tourists in Italy can actually sleep in their bags has become the problem of this summer since the Venice authorities issued an edict last month banning them in public places.

The ban has been heavily criticized for being repressive; infringement brings fines and removal by the police in a city which offers little alternative to the streets and squares for travellers unwilling or unable to pay for hotels.

The authorities' object was to protect the decorum of the great monuments, especially St Mark's Square, which lends itself very well to use by what are now called "sleeping-bag people".

The arcades keep off the nocturnal damp rising from the canals. And for the more sensitive, sunrise over the Doge's Palace is a great spectacle, even from the rim of a sleeping bag. But it is less so if one is rudely awakened at dawn by angry policemen. As one East European student was heard to comment: "I thought I had come away on holiday to get away from all that."

The side effects are often illuminating. The outcry has convinced editors to equip the

more casual of their journalists with rucksacks and sleeping bags, shorts and canvas shoes and send them hitchhiking to Venice to mix with this vast but largely unknown race of travellers, which is now becoming a national political issue.

The analyses vary from total identification with the mistreated young student, whose sleeping bag is seen to be stuffed with diplomas and university degrees, to disgust

with a generation which is really prosperous but insists on being anti-social and anti-hygienic.

The Communist youth movement rushed to the support of the sleeping-bag people, organizing boat trips for them in the Venetian lagoon and a party in one of the main squares of the city.

The affair has reached the point at which the tourist authorities of Rome and Florence, which is the European cultural capital this year, are planning to meet their Venetian colleagues to decide jointly what to do with young tourists not disposed to spend.

Rome has long experience of the problem, in part because it has been accustomed for centuries to dealing with the pilgrim trade. But it has fresh difficulties now: its historic centre is seen to be in danger from the advance of the "fast food" crusade. The city, how-

ever, has plenty of space around it for camping sites which Venice, being a tight little island, does not possess.

Florence is attempting to impose a minimum of elegance on visitors to its museums, on the grounds that a painter such as Botticelli calls for more respect than to have his work looked at by barefoot people in shorts and vests with their sleeping bags on their backs.

But it is not only the great cultural centres which are proving tough for the indigent tourist. Riccione, one of the most popular Adriatic seaside resorts, is gathering the reputation of being the toughest of all in facing the problem of semi-nomadic tourism.

The city administration is totally Communist, but the party's youth movement is planning a demonstration next week in Riccione to protest against the strict regulations, which include a ban on sleeping in cars. The idea is to block the streets with cars full of people wearing mirror-type sunglasses, so that police will have an impossible job in deciding whether the eyes behind them are open or shut.

But even in Riccione the real symbol of contention is the sleeping bag, and everything that it means in social and economic terms.

Appeal to end prison overcrowding

Rome — An appeal for resolute action to face the crisis of overcrowding in prisons has come from, of all people, the director-general of Italy's prison system (Peter Nichols writes).

Signor Nicola Amato, a former public prosecutor who is head of the Justice Ministry's prisons department, says that more than 44,000 people are being held in accommodation designed for an absolute maximum of 29,000.

He launched his appeal in the wake of two dramatic events. The first was a report by a group of doctors on the appalling conditions in which prisoners live in the Poggioreale prison in Naples.

The report was prepared for Parliament's anti-Mafia com-

mission. It states that cells contain up to 20 people, and three times more prisoners are held in the old building than the structure permits.

The second was a decision by party leaders this week to postpone until the autumn discussion of a long-promised amnesty.

Among other leading members of the Government, Signor Giulio Andreotti, the Foreign Minister, pressed hard for immediate approval of the measure, both on humane grounds and as a partial solution to the overcrowding. He fears new disasters as the temperature rises.

This measure indirectly fell victim to the resignation of the Government, though the Communist opposition, as

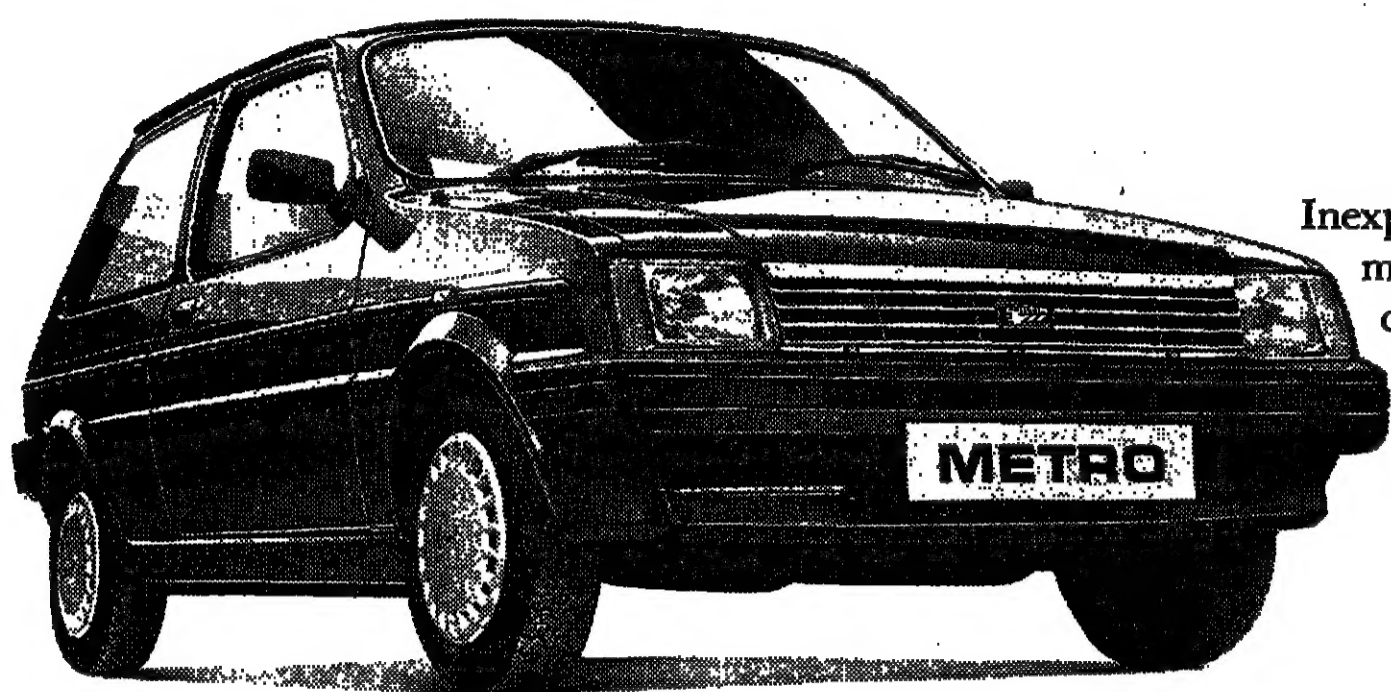
well as leading politicians on the Government side, expressed their readiness to go on working for agreement on an amnesty text.

Christian Democrat members of the Senate's justice commission yesterday proposed that prisoners themselves should be asked for their suggestions.

The main point made by Signor Amato in his article, published by the Rome newspaper *La Repubblica*, is that the criticism of prison conditions must be transformed into practical initiatives.

PULL A FAST ONE

We've held our prices as long as possible – but they've got to go up. Very, very soon. So your smartest move is visit an Austin Rover dealer – now! Take your pick of the best deals. Pull a fast one – before the price rise.

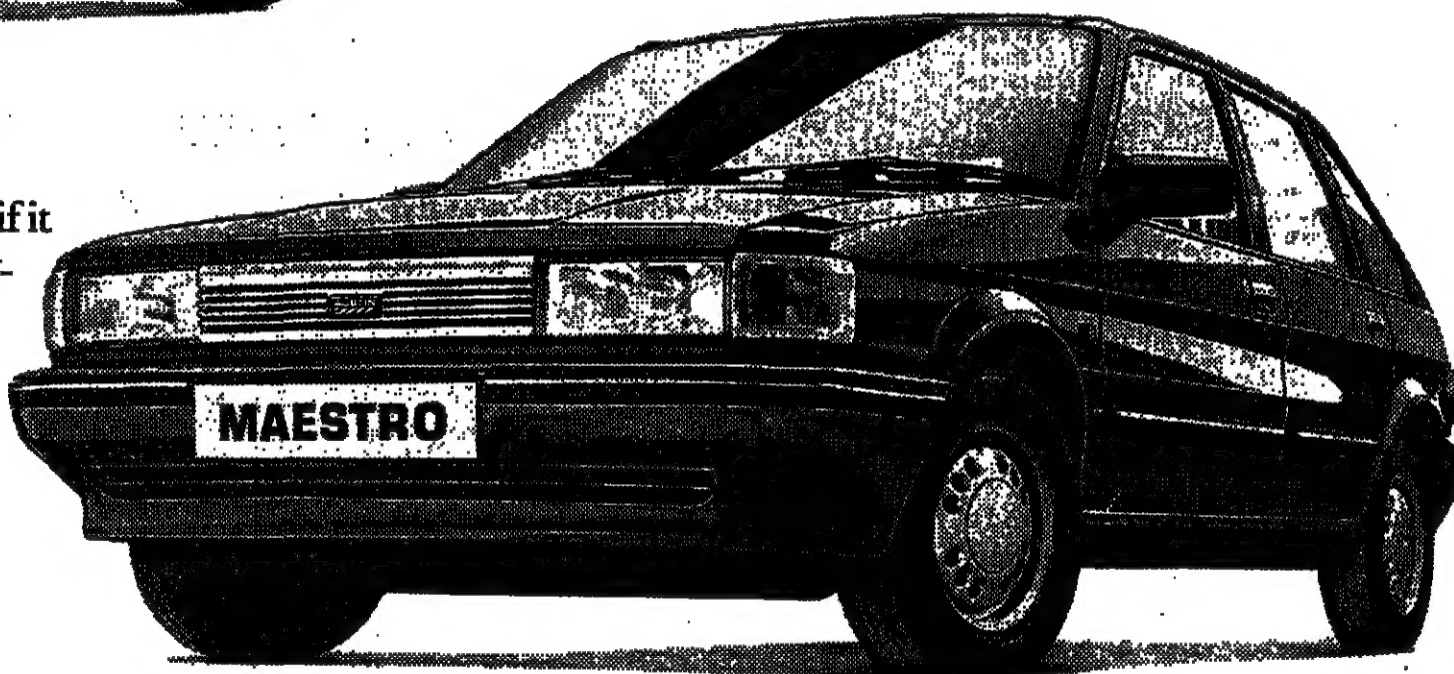


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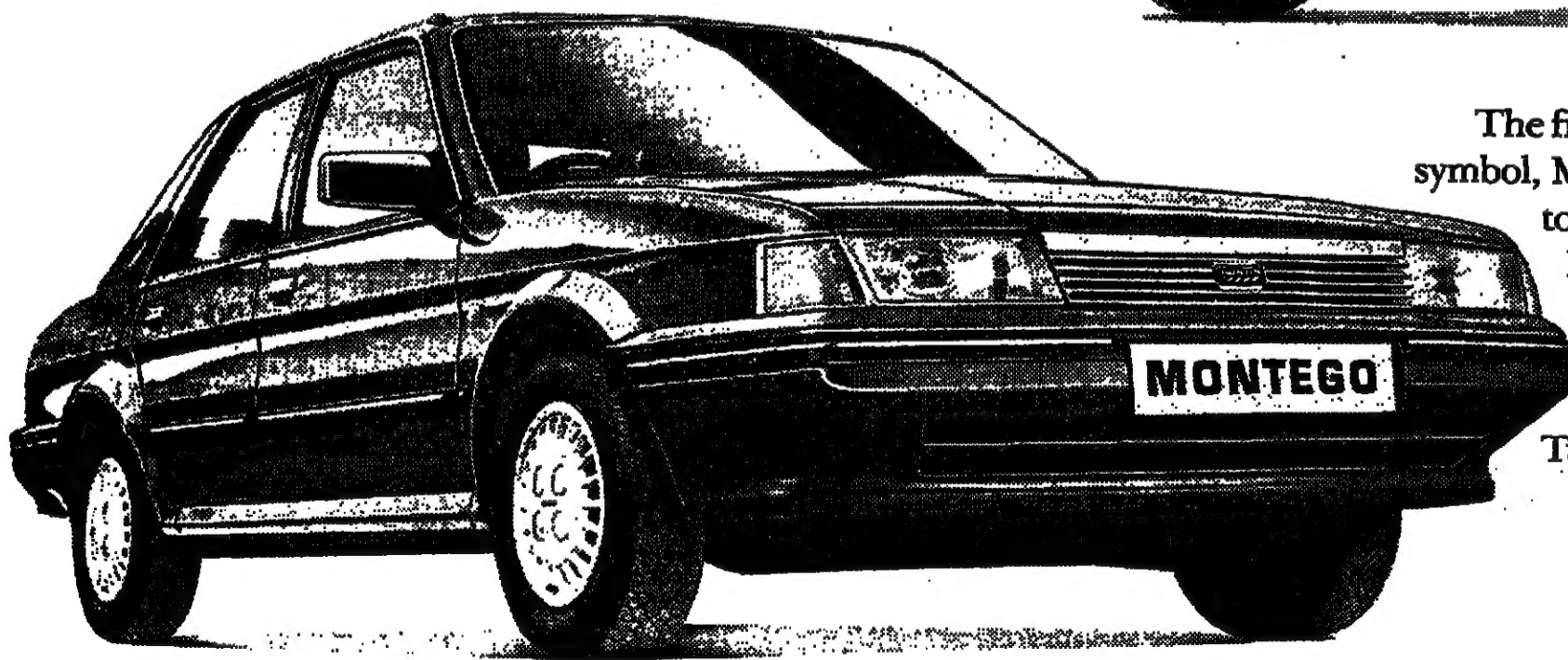
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†TOP 1000 AVAILABLE AT AN EXTRA COST. ‡FLEET FAVOURABLE APRIL 1986. †WHAT CAR? AUGUST 1986. DOT FIG. – METRO 1.0 CITY 38.5 DL URBAN CYCLE 45.7 MPG (6.2L PER 100 KM). CONSTANT 36 MPG (7.7L PER 100 KM). MAESTRO 1.3 HI AND MONTEGO 1.6 MAYFAIR.

Mutual distrust hampers talks on Afghanistan troop pull-out

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

A compromise is nearer on a timetable for the withdrawal of about 115,000 Soviet troops from Afghanistan, but mutual distrust regarding what could happen during the departure period is blocking indirect talks between delegations from Kabul and Islamabad, headed by the Foreign Ministers.

The eighth round, which began on August 31, is being formally concluded today. The next is likely to be preceded by further visits to the two capitals by the UN mediator, Señor Diego Cordovez, an Under Secretary-General.

The Afghans suspect that Pakistan's insistence on a shorter withdrawal period is because increased outside assistance to the guerrillas would resume immediately after the process was completed.

The Pakistanis, on the other hand, think that, in pressing for an early end to this aid, the Kabul Government's intention is the final liquidation of all guerrilla groups.

Closely linked to these considerations is the question of whether the Soviet Union will agree to UN observers monitoring Afghanistan's frontier with Pakistan. This assumes that Mr Gorbachov really does intend that the rest of his troops will eventually follow the six regiments (5,000 to 7,000 men) already due to leave by the end of this year.

Although the Russians have never before accepted any UN presence where they were directly involved, they have on previous occasions had

their own officers there as part of such a presence — in Sinai, for example.

The observer contingent would use helicopters, planes and four-wheel drive vehicles for patrolling and random inspection along Afghanistan's 1,250-mile frontier with Pakistan, especially the 200-mile sector used for passing supplies to the resistance.

A Soviet decision on UN observers, of nationalities acceptable to both sides, is unlikely before the principal decisions on a pull-out. These, in turn, are not expected before the second Reagan-Gorbachov summit.

If Moscow does opt for UN monitoring, the Security Council may not be formally requested to authorize establishment of an observer contingent, which could be set up through bilateral arrangements. This would avoid further Council debate on the Afghanistan issue.

After the withdrawal period, the observers would remain along the frontier for at least six months, and perhaps much longer.

There is no indication that much attention has been given in this latest round to arrangements for consulting the three million Afghan refugees in Pakistan and another one-and-a-half million in Iran on conditions for returning to their homes.

In contrast with previous rounds, no local representatives of guerrilla groups have appeared for the purpose of contacting correspondents. They had said in advance that the talks would get nowhere.



Abu Iyad (right), Mr Arafat's representative, in Athens yesterday with Mr Fuad al-Bittar, the PLO's resident envoy.

PLO vows to keep terror out of Greece

From Mario Modiano, Athens

The Palestine Liberation Organization dispatched a senior security official to Athens this week to renew assurances that it is willing to co-operate with Greek authorities in combating terrorism.

Abu Iyad, *nom de guerre* of Mr Salah Khalaf, the security chief of Mr Yassir Arafat's Fatah group, said yesterday, after four days of talks with ministers here: "We shall not bring our struggle to Greek soil, no matter how hard the Israelis try to get us to."

The visit came just as Athens was clearly upgrading its relations with Israel and becoming increasingly exasperated by the serious damage that Arab-related terrorism and violence have been causing to tourism.

The PLO is anxious to dissociate itself from violence by dissident Palestinians. However, Abu Iyad denied that the organization was informing on them. "We are just co-operating on security," he said.

Abu Iyad, here at the invitation of Mr Antonis Drosos, the Public Order Minister, said the talks had been a "success, both from the political and security point of view".

Syria rejects Gemayel plan for solving Lebanese crisis

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

Syria yesterday delivered an outright rejection of President Gemayel's proposal for a "special session" of Parliament to decide on the future constitutional status of Lebanon, claiming that it was an attempt to "throw sand in the people's eyes" and obstruct "genuine efforts" to end the Lebanese crisis.

Damascus radio contemptuously referred to the Gemayel statement, which was made last Friday in a speech at the military academy to mark Army Day, as "just a lot of talk" which was intended to confuse the population.

Left-wing and pro-Syrian newspapers here eagerly took up the theme in their morning editions.

All night, the people of Beirut could hear the practical effects of the Syrian opposition as heavy artillery shells exploded across both Muslim and Christian sectors of the Lebanese capital.

Two bombs exploded in the Muslim west of the city, one near the headquarters of the Syrian plain-clothes security police and the other not far from the cemetery that adjoins the Sabra Palestinian camp.

Brigadier-General Ghazi Kanaan has already described the explosions in the Muslim sector of Beirut as the work of "Israeli agents".

In Beirut, two pro-Syrian newspapers, *Al-Sharq* and *Al-Hakika*, gave their front page

lead stories over to the Syrian condemnation, which treated President Gemayel's proposals as a bluff.

"If words were enough to resolve the Lebanese crisis, it would have disappeared long ago," Damascus radio said.

Alexandria session

King Husain of Jordan and President Mubarak of Egypt have ended 24 hours of talks in Alexandria on Middle East peace prospects (Reuter reports). No details of the meeting — their first in three months — were released.

"But experience has shown that words alone are not sufficient to remove obstacles in the way of a national solution and dialogue."

Syria's anger may have been provoked by President Gemayel's decision to circulate his apparently mild series of suggestions to a number of friendly governments, including Saudi Arabia, in the hope

that Arab states would persuade Damascus to accept them. In west Beirut, Mr Nabih Berri's Amal movement and the Sunni leadership rejected the proposals.

The new controversy comes at an inauspicious moment. There is growing Druze disenchantment with Syria's security plan in Beirut, made manifest by a statement from Mr Walid Jumblatt, the Druze leader, to the effect that Syrian troops would not be allowed to deploy in the Chouf mountains south-east of Beirut.

Syrian troops and security men would be allowed to travel only on the main roads through the Chouf, he said.

The Syrians have been irritated by the Soviet Union's decision to hold negotiations with Israel for the resumption of consular relations. Mr Felix Fedotov, the Soviet Ambassador in Damascus, has told the Syrians that the talks will deal "only with consular matters and will not lead to a change in basic relations."

Soviet Jew wins release

Jerusalem (AFP) — Mr Alexander Kushnir, a Jew who for more than 10 years pressed to be allowed to leave the Soviet Union, arrived at Ben Gurion airport near Tel Aviv to be met by his mother, who emigrated to Israel 13 years ago.

Mr Kushnir, aged 38, marked his arrival on Wednesday by wearing up his own photograph and biography in a brochure about several Soviet Jews who had been refused visas to emigrate to Israel.

He described those he had left behind as prisoners of Zion and asked that they should not be forgotten.

Threat to September meeting

Athens moves to block Turkish EEC benefits

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Greece is taking action to block the normalization of relations between the EEC and Turkey, an associate member, and wants its grievances against Istanbul to be discussed at the EEC-Turkey association council meeting, scheduled for September 16.

The Greek Government has already acted to back its objections in three ways: it has announced it is asking the European Court to cancel special aid of 10 million Ecu, granted by the Community to Turkey to mark the end of the freeze in relations imposed in 1980 after the Turkish military suspended democratic rule.

Secondly, Mr Theodoros Pangalos, the Greek Minister of State for Community Affairs, said Greece was blocking the release of Community financing to Turkey worth 600 million Ecu withheld after the freeze. He said it was preposterous that Greece, which feels militarily threatened by Turkey, should contribute aid to that country.

Finally, Greece is refusing to sign documents making it a party to the EEC-Turkey association treaty, unless Turkey revokes a 1964 decree denying Greeks inheritance and property rights in Istanbul, and exempts Greece from the Community commitment to authorize the free movement of Turkish workers after December 1.

The Community's foreign ministers last month overruled a Greek request for the

September foreign ministers' meeting to be postponed as a protest against the Turkish Prime Minister's visit to Northern Cyprus.

Greek officials asserted, however, that while this could be done without Greece's consent, unanimity was required among the 12 to agree on the agenda and define their common position on its items.

The Greeks want the agenda to include all the Greek grievances against Turkey: the occupation of Cyprus; Turkey's internal situation, with emphasis on human rights violations; and Turkey's alleged involvement in international drug trafficking.

Mr Miltiadis Papaioannou, the Greek Government spokesman, said that unless these issues were put on the table "there can be no Community position paper — we shall veto it." There is nothing to prevent the Greek minister from taking the floor at the meeting to outline the Greek positions.

The British presidency of the council, however, wants the political issues to be aired informally over dinner, with the actual session focusing on technical issues such as tomato paste and textile quotas.

"Even without the Greeks it will be difficult for the other countries to agree on issues outstanding with Turkey," a British presidency source said. "The September meeting, therefore, will be largely symbolic. The real negotiations will start in October."

'Plane-spectators' upset Greeks

Athens — Three West German tourists arrested on spying charges after photographing Greek military airfields, told a magistrate in Larissa yesterday that they were aircraft-spectators, a hobby unknown in this country (Our Correspondent writes).

Herr Herbert Diderichs, aged 25, a company official, Herr Martin Schott, aged 24, a salesman, and Herr Wolf Udo Wisplinghoff, aged 23, a stu-

dent, all from Neuss, were arrested while taking pictures of military aircraft landing and taking off at Larissa Air Force base on Monday.

Police said five rolls of their film included photographs of military planes taken at 10 Greek airfields. Some had pictures of Turkish military aircraft taken when the three visited Turkey during their stay in Greece.

Acrobats defect to West

Two married trapeze artists with the Moscow Circus, performing in Buenos Aires, defected and left for the United States on Wednesday night (Our Foreign Staff writes).

Diplomatic sources said the two acrobats, Nikolai Nikolski and his wife, Bertina Mijailova, boarded an Eastern Airways flight to Miami. Circus officials refused to comment.

Meanwhile, police in Madrid say seven Romanian seamen have asked for refugee status in the Canary Islands. They said five members of the crew of a cargo ship and two fishermen jumped ship yesterday. Their request was being considered.

US airman convicted of spying

Beale Air Base, California (Reuter) — An airman with the US Air Force's elite Strategic Air Command was convicted yesterday of passing secrets to undercover FBI agents posing as Soviet spies. Bruce Ott, aged 26, described by his lawyer at a court martial as a mixed-up young man headed towards self-destruction, was said to have contacted the Soviet consulate in San Francisco and then taken SAC documents "with reason to believe they would be used to injure the United States."

He was arrested in a motel in Davis, California, on January 22 when he was alleged to have passed a copy of an SAC regulation concerning an F-71 spy plane to the FBI agents.

Look who's getting into banking nowadays.



When TSB Group shares are offered for sale in September, we want as many people as possible to think about buying them: people in all walks of life from all over the country.

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Japan to raise defence spending as Russians continue forces build-up

From A Correspondent, Tokyo

Japan intends to strengthen its military power in a bid to match an unprecedented build-up of Soviet forces in the Far East over the past decade.

Japan's 1986 White Paper on defence, made public today, says the nation has fallen behind in achieving its defence aim of being in a position to repel a limited Soviet invasion without the help of US forces based in Asia.

Its conclusion has set the stage to allow the Government of Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone to override a long-standing, self-imposed rule which has kept Japan's defence spending below 1 per cent of gross national product.

Such a move would please Washington, which has repeatedly demanded that Tokyo take greater responsibility for its own defence after sheltering for 40 years under the US nuclear defence umbrella.

Mr Yukio Kurihara, the newly appointed director-general of the Defence Agency, said last month that the cherished limit on defence spending should not stand in the way of Japan's achieving its strategic aims.

The White Paper said the

matter was one of great urgency. It said Moscow now deployed up to a third of its strategic forces in the region, including 162 of the medium-range SS20 missiles so feared by Japan and China.

It said Moscow had also moved in an extra 10 divisions, bringing strength to 41 divisions, and now operated 2,390 planes in the region, many of them recent generation fighters and bombers.

Most important, the Soviet Pacific Fleet now totalled 840 vessels, including two modern Minsk-class aircraft carriers and Delta3 ballistic missile submarines.



Mr Kurihara: reassured 'doves' on defence spending.

The hawkish Mr Nakasone has vowed to bottle up the Soviet fleet in the Sea of Japan in the event of war. Military experts are not so sure Japan can stop the Russians breaking out through the straits around Japan to threaten US control of the Pacific.

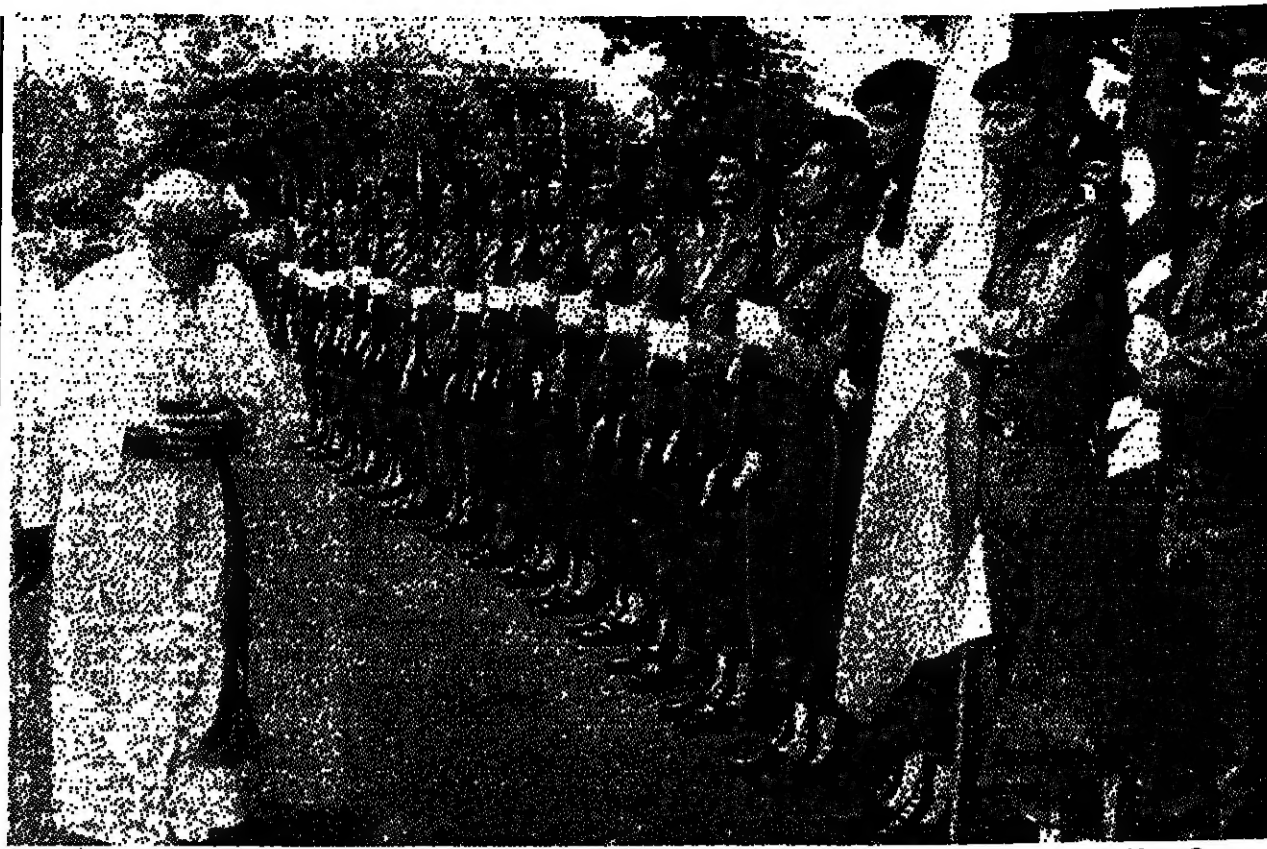
Meanwhile, Mr Kurihara has assured the many remaining "doves" in Japan that the country will not become a military power even if it does break its defence spending limit.

But a 1 per cent spending limit still gives Japan a military budget of about \$3.7 billion this year, which is higher than that of China and more than half that of Britain.

In all other respects, Japan's armed forces are already a military power in Asia. They are not necessarily the biggest, but they are well equipped and the country's superb industrial base could quickly turn to weapons production.

Japan fields more than 150,000 fighting troops, 350 planes and its 164-ship fleet is the most powerful in the region after that of the US and the Soviet Union.

The Army says its main weaknesses are airpower and anti-submarine weaponry.



Monsignor Giglio, the Papal Nuncio, reviewing a guard of honour in Managua after his meeting with President Ortega.

Six nations urge ban on nuclear weapons tests

Ixtapa, Mexico (Reuters) — The Group of Six nations ended a two-day meeting on peace and disarmament here yesterday with a call for a ban on nuclear testing and a plan for verification.

Delegates said the final declaration would also call for an arms cut to follow a test ban, and for President Reagan to scrap the Star Wars space defence project.

The Group of Six, which

was formed in May 1984, opened a publicity campaign aimed at bringing about nuclear disarmament at its only other meeting, last year in Delhi.

Attending the conference in this Pacific resort were President de la Madrid of Mexico and President Alfonsín of Argentina, the Swedish, Indian and Greek Prime Ministers, Mr Ingvar Carlsson, Mr Rajiv Gandhi

and Mr Andreas Papandreu,

respectively, and the former President of Tanzania, Mr Julius Nyerere.

Delegates said the verification proposal would include intricate seismic tests. They said they hoped the Soviet Union and the United States could be persuaded to allow their use to verify compliance with any mutual test ban pact.

The meeting received messages of goodwill from around the world, including one from

Hiroshima. Its mayor called for the superpowers to hold a summit meeting there to take the first practical steps towards nuclear disarmament.

The Colombian Nobel Prize winning novelist, Gabriel García Márquez, delivered a speech which painted a vivid picture of a post-nuclear war world of permanent night, lashed by orange rain and hurricanes and populated only by cockroaches.

Managua meeting for papal envoy

Managua (Reuters) — The new Papal Nuncio to Nicaragua has held talks with President Ortega in the first high-level contact between the Roman Catholic Church and the Government since the recent expulsion of Bishop Pablo Vega.

"President Ortega and I have agreed to do everything possible to settle differences between the Government and the Catholic Church," Monsignor Paolo Giglio said after the meeting.

The left-wing Government and the Vatican have long been at odds over Sandinista support for liberation theology, which uses Marxist analysis to explain the need for social and political change in the Third World.

Mr Giglio, who arrived here last week, presented his credentials as the new Vatican ambassador in the hour-long meeting with President Ortega on Wednesday.

Bishop Vega, vice-president of the Nicaraguan Bishops' Conference, was accused of being in sympathy with the Contra rebels.

The Pope described his expulsion as an "almost incredible act", which contradicted Sandinista assurances that the Government wanted peaceful co-existence with the Church.

Sandinistas' other battle front

Church and state at daggers drawn

From Our Special Correspondent, Jinotepe, Nicaragua

The last rites and burial of a young Sandinista soldier here in his home town, 30 miles south of Managua, pointedly dramatized the deep hostility between Church and state in Nicaragua.

To the Roman Catholic priest who officiated at the funeral Mass, Fidel González, aged 21, was just another sinner in need of divine indulgence. To the Army officer who spoke later at the cemetery, Fidel, killed when a Contra mine blew up his Jeep, was a martyr and saint of the Sandinista revolution.

"His death was not in vain. Fidel gave his life, his courage for the revolutionary cause," the officer declared.

The burial ceremony, at which no priest was present, was more defiant than solemn, the climax coming with an emotional rendition of the Sandinista anthem, a line of which describes the United States as "the enemy of humanity".

At the Mass in Jinotepe's large Catholic church, one had the sense that both priest and congregation were merely going through the motions. Out of a congregation of some 300, only a dozen took communion. The priest, Father José Francisco González, did not deliver a sermon.

"We don't do sermons at these types of Masses, we're too pushed for time," he said after the service. This year so far he had performed the last rites for "about 20" Sandinista soldiers killed in the fighting against the American-backed Contras.

Under orders from his superiors, Father González was prepared to give a funeral service to "anyone who asked for it". But he maintained a neutral political position, he insisted. "We can't be judges in the war."

It is this, the Church's refusal to judge and condemn the US and the Contras for the suffering inflicted during six years of fighting, that has provoked the Government's rage and led to cries from the Church hierarchy that it is being persecuted.

The decision last month to drive into exile the second most senior member of that

hierarchy, Bishop Pablo Vega, and its senior spokesman, Father Bismarck Carballo — in both cases for "a criminal and anti-patriotic attitude" — marked the end of a vicious campaign against them lasting months, spearheaded by the Sandinista newspaper, *Barricada*.

The head of the Church in Nicaragua, Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, is regularly referred to in *Barricada* as "the Cardinal of the Contras" and the "Chaplain of the White House".

Its editor, Señor Xavier Reyes, said: "The Church is the ideological ally of the United States. It represents the only real political opposition in Nicaragua, priests act as American agents inside the country."

Treason is the chief accusation buried against the Church. President Ortega said in a speech on July 19, the seventh anniversary of the Sandinista revolution, that the two expelled churchmen were fortunate not to have been jailed for 30 years for such a crime.

Bishop Vega had indeed declared at a news conference shortly before his expulsion that the recent US congressional vote approving \$100 million in aid to the Contras had been "legitimate and valid". He even found justification for an American invasion.

Cardinal Obando, reported by the Nicaraguan press to have given a Mass earlier this year for Contra leaders in Miami, is known to be not unsympathetic to President Reagan's goal of removing the Sandinistas from power. But, according to church sources interviewed recently, even he is said to have been dismayed by Bishop Vega's public remarks.

There are those who feel the Cardinal will now run up the white flag and seek ways to ease tensions with the Government. More likely, though, a prolonged period of cold war will set in, with the Church perhaps less openly anti-Sandinista but still refusing to denounce the killings occasioned by the growing American role in the Contra war.

Peru Congress split on jail mutiny inquiry

From Our Correspondent, Lima

The Peruvian Congress opened an extensive debate this week to appoint a committee to investigate the prison mutiny on June 18 in which more than 200 inmates belonging to the Shining Path guerrilla group died.

The Marxist opposition coalition, United Left, is demanding that it should chair the committee to guarantee impartiality in an investigation that could censure the Cabinet.

But the ruling Apra party does not wish to allow the opposition to antagonize the armed forces, and will probably appoint Señor Carlos Enrique Melgar, a veteran Senator, to head the investigation.

Since the uprising an important dispute concerning court jurisdiction over the case has arisen. A Lima judge, Dr Hernán Saturno, has brought charges of pre-meditated murder against General Jorge Rabanal, the Army officer who was in direct command of the security forces

who suppressed the uprising by 124 inmates at Lurigancho prison on June 18. The judge's accusations are to be extended to "others found responsible".

Civilian courts have rarely ruled that they can try military personnel on criminal charges, nor have the armed forces accepted their jurisdiction.

General Jorge Flores, the Minister of War, said the armed forces would appeal to the Supreme Court to have the case heard before a military court.

Human rights leaders have expressed concern that inquiries into the killings, as well as events at two other mutiny sites, El Frontón island prison and the Santa Bárbara women's prison in the port of Callao, would become bogged down in prolonged congressional hearings and court martial.

More than a month after the mutiny the Government has yet to produce a final count of the prisoners killed at the three sites. It has acknowledged only 156 deaths.

With today's criminals, it's more grey cells we need.

Much of London's crime gives every appearance of having been committed by mindless morons.

By contrast, some financial frauds are so complex, it takes some of our top brains months to unravel them.

Whichever end of the scale we're dealing with, a quick chase and an armlock isn't always the solution.

In our opinion, it's infinitely better to be one step ahead of the criminal rather than a couple of paces behind.

Brainpower or Manpower?

These days, we place a lot more emphasis on intelligence and keen observation work. This applies just as much to



Communication and information systems are now computer-based.

the bobby on the beat as it does to the special units we have specifically formed for the task.

Like the criminal fraternity, we're always on the lookout for new ideas we can turn to our advantage.

The Neighbourhood Watch Schemes that are proving to be so successful are just one example.

Micro-chip technology is another.

A lot of routine investigation is now done by computer; tracing fingerprints, checking on stolen cars, cross-referencing information to find a common link — that sort of thing.

The traffic in central London would be even more of a nightmare if it weren't largely computer controlled.

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In short, the Met is a very sophisticated machine. And it runs on brain power as much as manpower.

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You might have to come between a wife-basher and his nearest and dearest.

You might be the first on the scene of a serious accident.

You might have to crawl onto a roof with a suicidal

lady who wants to throw both of you into the street below. Even facing a mugger with a knife requires a bit of quick thinking before you put your self-defence training to the test.

Most people would say you'd have to be barmy to do it. The reverse is nearer the truth.

A police officer's job calls for someone with a lot of common sense and a very level head indeed.

You can't be over-qualified.

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They'll help you go further, faster.

Everyone starts on the beat, and anyone with ambition can go just as far as their ability or inclination will take them.

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Rest assured though, if you've got enough up top, that's where you're going to end up.

What's the reward?

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Managua meeting for papal envoy

Managua, August 6. A new Papal Nuncio to Nicaragua, Don Luigi Bommarito, arrived in the capital today to meet with the Nicaraguan government and the National Assembly.

President Ortega said he would like to see the Nuncio in the capital to discuss the situation in the country.

The Nuncio, however, and his staff, have been at the airport since they arrived, waiting for a car to take them to the city.

My friend, who is here, says that the Nuncio is a very good man and that he will be a good ambassador.

But, as the Nuncio of the Holy See, he will be a very good man and that he will be a good ambassador.

is' other battle front

h and state gers draw

Correspondent, Jimenez, Nicaragua

hierarchy, Bishop Pablo and its senior spokesman, Father Bommarito, said in both cases for a new and anti-patriotic attitude.

marked the end of a campaign against them in the media, spearheaded by Sandinista newspapers.

The head of the Church in Nicaragua, Cardinal Ruffini, is not a member of the hierarchy, but he is a member of the hierarchy.

His editor, Sr. A. Reyes, said: "The Church is not a political organization. It is a religious organization."

Trayon is the chief of the Church in Nicaragua. He is a member of the hierarchy.

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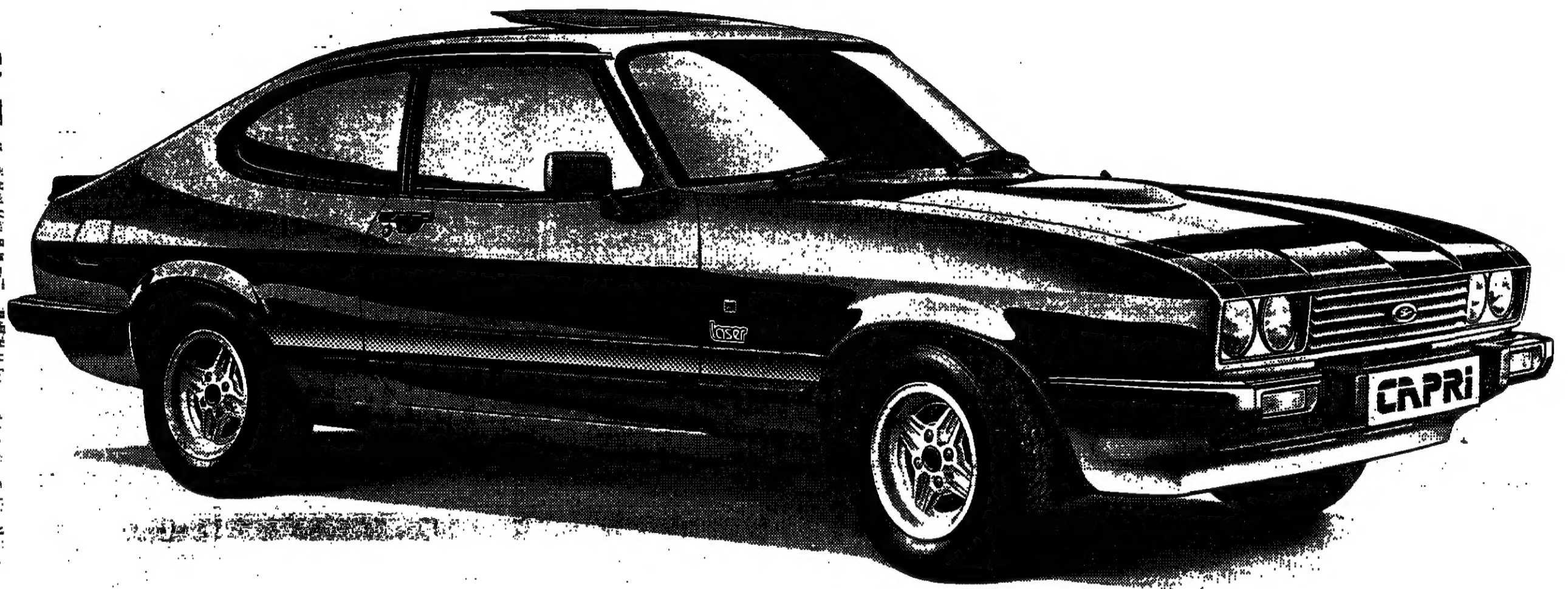
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SPECTRUM

How to hold back the bulldozer

Eleven properties have reached the short list for this year's RISC/Times Conservation Awards. Caroline Moorehead reviews the candidates

Few causes are so dear to the heart of the British as their own homes. Be they castle or cottage, lodge or terrace house, there is no limit to the ingenuity directed every year towards their restoration and improvement. Many old properties have been brought back from the edge of dilapidation to function once more as homes, providing the theme for this year's Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors/Times Conservation Awards.

The theme of conserving residential property drew 60 entries covering homes ranging from flat conversions — the number of flats not to exceed 10 — to single houses. They fell into two categories: privately and publicly funded. The winners in both categories will be announced on September 23.

The schemes on the short list cover terraced houses, almshouses, lodges, cottages, former manors and town houses. Some required considerable structural work while others needed painstaking interior restoration.

The conservation awards were launched in 1971 to mark European Conservation Year. The enterprise was so successful, attracting nearly 100 entries under the theme of urban conservation and land reclamation, that it was decided to make it an annual event.

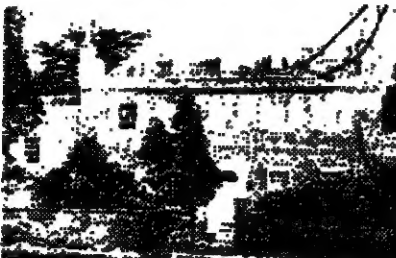
Since the scheme started, the themes have included coast and countryside, land reclamation, urban renaissance and conserving the industrial heritage. The total number of entrants over the years has now passed well beyond the 1,000 mark.

PRIVATELY FUNDED



Pirrig House, Bonnington Road, Edinburgh
Michael Laird & Partners
A late example of a traditional Scottish laird's house built in 1838 in an L-shaped plan around a turnpike stair for an

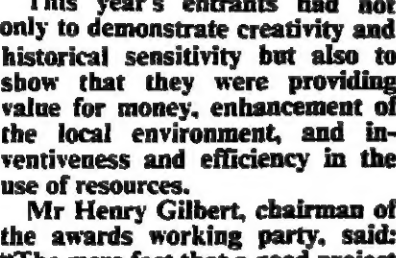
Edinburgh goldsmith, Gilbert Kirkwood. Robert Louis Stevenson's grandfather was born at Pirrig and Stevenson introduced the house into *Kidnapped*. The house fell into disuse and burned down in 1971. Converted into six flats.



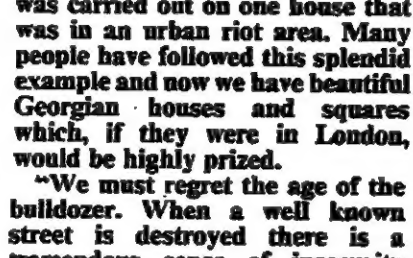
Harpenden Lodge, Luton Road, Harpenden
Pianwell Properties (Herts) Ltd
Built in 1803 by Major General Murray Haddon. It has been converted into three flats.



Tanyard, Farnham, Surrey
The Farnham Building Preservation Trust
The surviving timber framed wing of a 15th century building which has been converted into two flats.



Manor House, Park Lane, Bristol
Bristol City Council
Dates from between 1650 and 1720. It was seriously damaged by fire in November, 1978. Converted into nine flats of sheltered accommodation.



1 and 3 Hollybank Road, Birkenhead, Wirral, Merseyside
Venture Housing Association Ltd
A detached pair of houses derelict and vandalized before conservation. Converted into ten flats.

PUBLICLY FUNDED



Greenwood Almshouses, 15 Rousden Street, London NW1
Peter Mishon & Associates for St Pancras Housing Association
The Greenwood Almshouses were founded in 1840 for elderly Christian

women and consisted of four brick houses faced with stucco. When the architects first visited the almshouses they described them as being among the worst housing they had seen. Converted into six one-bedroom flats.



Advocate's Close, High Street, Edinburgh
McManus & Brown
An original tenement building with a lintel bearing the date 1590. Converted into ten flats.



Dial House, 790 High Road, London N17
Levitt Bernstein Associates for Metropolitan Housing Trust and London Borough of Haringey
Built in 1890. Converted into nine flats.



The Old Guildhall, Church Row, Clavering, Essex
Essex County Council
A row of timber framed cottages, built in about 1475. Converted into a single house.



Manor House, Park Lane, Bristol
Bristol City Council
Dates from between 1650 and 1720. It was seriously damaged by fire in November, 1978. Converted into nine flats of sheltered accommodation.

Dark side of the bright lights

As yet another play disappears from the West End, safe old-fashioned musicals high-kick on remorselessly. What future then for genuine drama?

When *The Gambler* closes tomorrow night after a West End run of only four and a half weeks, the eponymous Mel Smith can expect to lose one of the most expensive bets of his career. If, that is, he himself was rash enough to flutter on the odds of any show having the staying power for a long run when the going is soft.

The surprise, of course, is not that it came off, but that it ever went on. No disrespect to Messrs Smith, Goody et al, but there is a new bullishness in the mood of producers for grabbing a show by the arms and rushing it into Shaftesbury Avenue before its feet have become accustomed to what is beneath them.

Two facts may yet console Mr Smith. The first is that his is unlikely to be the only West End show closing this month. The second is that he was well served by his producer, Andre Prasynski, who had the sense to pull the show, which lost its backers £120,000, before it pulled its backers under.

This is a lesson he may have learned from the abrupt and unannounced disappearance of *Lennon* at the Astoria. There, on June 8, the cast turned up for their Sunday performance to find the theatre had been stripped without warning.

Since the 1930s a select self-governing group of West End producers has enjoyed a privilege, unknown outside London, by which full members of the Society of West End Theatre (SWET) are exempted from the standard practice laid down by Equity: that they should deposit two weeks' wages before opening a show.

After its collapse, *Lennon*'s creditors were told that the producing management, Lupton Theatre Company, had not kept proper books since March 31, 1985. This led to accusations of mismanagement against the show's producer, Colin Brough, who pleaded the heavy workload of running both the production and the theatre. Brough says he lost half a million personally while the Equity representative estimated the total owed to union members at more than £27,000.

Brough blamed the fall in theatre attendances on Americans not coming to Britain after the Libyan bombing raid.



Short runners: from left, Bob Goody, Paul Brown and Mel Smith in *The Gambler*; right, Peter Bowles in *The Entertainer*

Similar arguments were trotted against dark theatres during and after the Falklands war, the World Cup, the rail strike, the bad weather and the teachers' strike. All, no doubt, had some justification.

Perhaps the only surprise is that anybody should still be willing to invest in theatre at all. One is gambling on a beast with no form. Theatres, unlike cinemas, do not feel the necessity to publish box office returns, except in summary form to backers. Moreover, it is not the producer who stands to lose his shirt in the speculation. That privilege is shared by the "angels" who back a show (usually sight unseen) with hard cash — up front in advance, no interest earned, no profits or dividends until the play breaks even.

Backing a musical, however, may yet hold a cachet that the "straight" West End play has lost. Out of 42 commercial theatres in London, 17 house musicals, four are dark, and the rest coddle mostly thrillers or long-running farces.

Richard Armitage is the producer of *The Entertainer*, which opened on June 6 and closed on July 26. He closed it because business remained poor even after the World Cup and Wimbledon, and he is now one of an increasing number of impresarios questioning the wisdom of staging "conventional" drama in the West End.

"I just wonder how eager producers will be to put on straight plays with good casts, with or without a star, as we get into the next season," he says.

At the Haymarket base of Triumph Apollo, Duncan Weldon continues to defy the auguries as he mounts straight play after straight play, though invariably illuminated by a film star — currently Fay

Dunaway and Jack Lemmon, previously Lauren Bacall, Liv Ullmann, Claudette Colbert, Charlton Heston, Rex Harrison, Vanessa Redgrave. The play is no longer the thing.

Triumph Apollo, already Britain's largest theatrical producers, are set to expand even further by persuading big-spending international companies to back their shows. To which end, an American sponsorship expert, Tom Miller, is wooing investors with a lavish brochure cataloguing the company's long (five or six-year) relationship with that galaxy of Names.

The only difficulty will be finding a way to plug the sponsor's name without the blatant and intrusive self-publicity granted in recent Hollywood films.

One small-scale entrepreneur who went out of

business last month made a worthy attempt to tame the commercial, unsubsidized theatre in London, before emerging from the shark pool badly bloodied, if not quite dead. Sean Mathias is a 30-year-old playwright whose *Infidelities* had already been approved in Edinburgh, with Jill Bennett. He wanted to re-stage it in London, and thought of the Boulevard, part of Paul Raymond's Revuebar in Soho.

Raymond refurbished the place and provided a separate entrance. Mathias and Bennett formed Off The Avenue to produce the play. If all went well in the 200-seat venue, they would recoup production costs of £32,000 in about three months, and pay back their investors in six. The play ran for less than one.

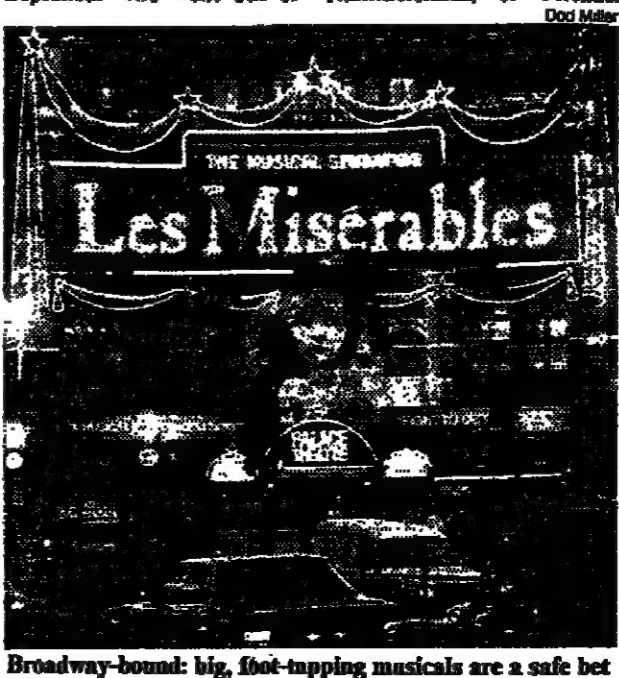
None of which dismays Kenneth Branagh, producing his own *Romeo* at the Lyric, Hammersmith, or Michael

Bogdanov and Michael Pennington, setting up their English Shakespeare Company, or Louis Benjamin, head of the Stoll Moss theatre empire, about to add the £1 million Cambridge Theatre to their £4 million-worth of recent acquisitions: the Royalty, Duchess, and Garrick, making a grand total of 12 London stages. The intention? According to Mr Benjamin, the company hopes to take musicals back into the theatre which previously housed *Half A Sixpence* and *Little Me*.

More and more, the West End is aping Broadway — and not only in the number of musicals it can stage at any one time. The debate about the £20 seat price for *Chess* has already been aired. Bob Swash, former president of SWET, thinks that, if the trend continues, "it would make going to the theatre a one-off occasion. People wouldn't be able to go on a regular basis."

In London, the only safe answer to that is to go for the biggest, most heavily endorsed (or publicized) musical. Why risk an *Entertainer* or a *Gambler*? That same critic suggests that "bad" theatre (for which, read expensive theatre) offers commercial financial success to actors, comparable to that available to professionals in other fields. The West End has, clearly, priced itself out of seriousness and the play of limited appeal. As costs have risen, the amount of irrelevant trivia has propagated the pseudo-serious play — *The Real Thing*, *Children of a Lesser God*, *Made In Bangkok*. The aim is now to reach the biggest audience, not the best.

David Roper



Broadway-bound: big, foot-tapping musicals are a safe bet

Gurkhas under a cloud

Nepal has never known anything like it. In the 170 years that generation after generation of Gurkhas have served the British crown, the renowned Nepalese fighting men are suddenly in trouble.

Four members of the 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkhas are currently on trial for allegedly attempting to smuggle heroin and cannabis into Britain.

In addition, 111 soldiers have been summarily dismissed from the 1st Battalion, 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles, based in Hongkong, after a brawl in Hawaii which left a British company commander and a Gurkha officer with cracked ribs and head injuries.

The Gurkhas come from the foothills of the Himalayan mountains and are exceptionally hardy folk. As the Gurkha commander in Nepal, Brigadier Miles Hunt-Davis, puts it: "They are natural soldiers. If you are from a hill farm in Nepal and you survive to adulthood you are a very, very tough man."

And British Gurkhas are hand-picked. Every year up to 80,000 of the strongest Gurkha youths apply for the few hundred places available in the dwindling regiments of the Brigade of Gurkhas. Rejection is so dreaded that some young men flee into India rather than return home and admit that they have failed.

The Gurkhas fear nothing. They have won 26 Victoria Crosses, 12 in the Second World War, and thousands of Military Crosses, Military Medals and other decorations for bravery. The citations often defy belief. One VC, for instance, killed 31 of the enemy single-handedly after a grenade had exploded in his other hand. In the Falklands the Argentinians ran away rather than face the prospect of capture by the hillmen.

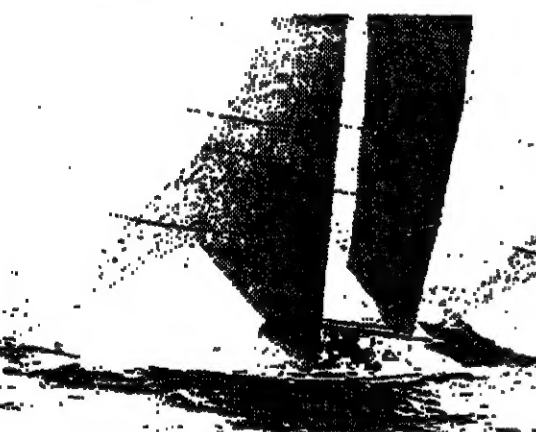
The 111 being flown home to Nepal steadfastly maintained their *chups* — Gurkha for silence — about the identity of those who set about Major Corin Pearce when he shot the bar at a party to celebrate the end of a six-week exercise in Hawaii. The brawl itself is blamed on Hawaiian rum and discontent about food and overseas allowances.

Gurkhas like drinking and are natural fighters — and because of an Anglo-Indian agreement they are paid only about half the amount their British equivalents receive. For perhaps the first time in their glorious history, it seems, they have put loyalty to each other ahead of loyalty to army discipline.

Robin Young

SATURDAY

—Portfolio Gold—
£20,000 to be won



Cup challenge, all at sea in Fremantle

High seas, hi-tech

Once the playthings of the wealthy leisured classes, the yachts in the America's Cup now have the following wind of commercial sponsorship and national egos. And with the defeat of the United States, the offshore circus has moved to Fremantle, Western Australia. The Times took to the high seas with the Britons vying to become the boys in the boat

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New Zealand,
north and south

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Oxford's top
French chef

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CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1023

ACROSS	1 N Pole region (6)	2 Ingredients list (6)	3 Bother (3)	4 Trouser leg fold (4,2)	5 African tale (6)	6 Tea (4)	7 Obsession (4,4)	8 In burning brandy (6)	9 Brawl (6)	10 Original (6)	11 Soil jump (4)	12 Dull (6)	13 Altitude (6)	14 Mime (5)	15 Scattered (6)	16 Cannabis cigarette (6)
DOWN	1 Approximate (5)	2 Childish rage (7)	3 Whim (7)	4 Rasca (5)	5 Sheep rock (4,5)	6 7 Fever (7)	7 Aural organ (3)	8 Concern (7)	9 God of earth (3)	10 17 First-year student (7)	11 Attribute (7)	12 Accumulated dirt (5)	13 Church instrument (5)	14 Yellow-orange (5)	15	16

SOLUTION TO NO 1022
ACROSS: 1 Umbilical cord 9 Ore 10 Patagonia 11 Fitch 13 Hapless 16 Maadior 19 Edric 22 Dardevil 24 Murn 25 St Vitus's Dance
DOWN: 1 Cut off 2 Absent 3 Slipshod 4 Scotch 5 Stag 6 Bounce 7 Admire 12 IBA 14 Prelude 15 Scar 16 Modish 17 Thrive 18 Revise 20 Immune 21 Tamper 23 Dote

FRIDAY PAGE



Nicola Hicks: "I was prepared to push myself forward, to say 'Hey, this space isn't big enough, I need more room'. I lost a lot of friends doing it."

Breaking the mould

"Oh, you are lucky," fellow students at the Royal College of Art said to Nicola Hicks when her work was shown in galleries and sculpture parks, when art dealers vied with each other to sign her up, and when Dame Elisabeth Frink picked her as the most promising newcomer in the 1984 Artist of the Day exhibition.

"It was always the people who came in at eleven and left at five who said that," says Nicola. At 26, unlike so many of the 4,000 or so postgraduate students who leave art school each year, she's already making a good living from her sculpting and painting.

For the past few weeks she's been digging five large pits in a field in Rosscarbery, County Cork (where her London art dealer Angela Flowers has a home and gallery), re-creating the Fruits of Akeldama, a grim Old Testament tale about a blighted field where no living thing was able to survive.

This unconventional exhibition, which looks more like an archaeological dig than a display of sculpture, opens tomorrow. Visitors walking over the brow of the hill will look down on a scene of devastation, with the doomed creatures of Akeldama, moulded out of the mud and clay and grass dug up by Nicola, displayed inside and around the shallow pits; five pieces of art blending into the landscape.

Nicola says it would have to rain for 40 days and 40 nights to wash away her exhibition — in fact it almost did, and she's been working in the field day and night to reconstruct the work in time for the opening. But the mud sculptures will inevitably disintegrate in time. "Not very commercial, is it?" she remarks cheerfully. "But I have got a collection of drawings inside, and if anyone wants one of the sculptures I'll be happy to go and dig in their garden and then coat it with concrete."

Nicola Hicks, one of our most successful young sculptors, unveils a grim new work tomorrow in an Irish field. Shirley Lowe reports on her talent

Since Nicola left the RCA a year ago her work has been seen in more than a dozen different exhibitions. One of her powerful charcoal and pastel animal drawings on brown paper, costs between £400 and £600; her sculptures — vulnerable, vaguely mythological creatures made out of plaster and straw — sell for as much as £3,000; and it's more private people than museums who have her wild goats behind the sofa, or her ragged hogs in the hall. Elisabeth Frink has a 6ft by 4ft Hicks bull rampaging along one of her walls. "Nicola's work has great energy and vitality," she says, "and however way out it may be, she is always, technically, a very competent sculptor."

Born in London to artist parents —

her mother is a sculptor, her father a painter — Nicola has been drawing and painting ever since she can remember. "I wasn't particularly gifted," she says. "It was never 'Look at Nicola, isn't she wonderful?' It was just something I always did and took seriously."

She was a difficult child and an even worse teenager. Expelled from half a dozen different schools, she ended up at a college in Sharnbrook ("an awful place...") playing poker all day, having convinced each of the teachers that she was on another teacher's course. She left there with one O level — for art.

By that time, however, she realized she wanted to go to art college and had to have some qualifications to get in.



Blighted earth: one of the sculptures from the Fruits of Akeldama exhibition

'If anyone wants one of these I'll be happy to go and dig in their garden'

By enrolling in three different adult education colleges she managed to scrape together enough O and A levels to get into the Chelsea School of Art, and then went on to the RCA. At the degree show there, Nicola was placed next to the gentlemen's lavatory. "Everyone always thinks they're in the wrong place," she says. "I was always prepared to push myself forward, to say: 'Hey, this space isn't big enough, I need more room...' and I know I lost a lot of friends doing it."

"There's an idea in art colleges, mostly put about by the tutors who are, after all, at the end of their careers and often envious of young people with everything before them, that it's not very nice for creative people to publicize themselves and that art should somehow be above such mundane matters as paying the rent."

"This is the most competitive profession in the world and once you decide you want to make a living at it — which is, in truth, the only way you can give it your all — you have to become two people, the private person in a studio and the person who's prepared to grit her teeth and go out and sell herself and her work."

While she was still at college Nicola married Gerry Kreager, a jazz pianist and songwriter, and together with another sculptor they have recently bought Charlie Chaplin's old rehearsal rooms in Camberwell. "It's beautiful, marvelous," says Nicola. "We've got two studios, a roof garden and a bronze foundry downstairs and it's working out cheaper than the £25 a week we paid in Southwark."

Nicola Hicks — The Fruits of Akeldama — Sculpture in the Field, and drawings by Nicola Hicks and Felice Egner in the gallery will be open from 2pm to 7pm at Angela Flowers, Rosscarbery, County Cork, Ireland, every day except Sunday until the end of August.

(The Times Newspapers Ltd, 1986)

Wanted: pen clips designed to stop children choking

Pen tops may seem harmless but they are potentially lethal. Between 1969 and 1984 eight British children suffocated when the pen top they had been sucking on lodged in their windpipes.

Now a study commissioned by the Child Accident Prevention Trust on behalf of the Department of Trade and Industry has suggested some simple changes in design which will make such tragedies much less likely.

Mr David Mathias, an ear, nose and throat consultant at the Royal Victoria Infirmary in Newcastle upon Tyne, has tested a whole range of commonly available pen tops using rubber models of the throat and windpipe.

There is a critical age, between three and 13, when children are at risk, he says. In younger children the windpipe is usually too small for a top to be inhaled, older children's windpipes are large enough to cope with it. His work has also shown that most of the pen tops British children of this age are likely to come across are potentially dangerous.

"There are currently only one or two pen tops on the market that are relatively safe," he says. "The standard cheap ballpoint pen top is potentially a disaster. Once they get stuck that's it, you've got three minutes to get it out before the child asphyxiates. It's a rare problem, but one which is entirely avoidable."

The answer, he says, is a simple clip which extends the full length of the pen top. This will stop the windpipe from closing around the top completely and create an air space through which the child can breathe, thus buying vital time to get the child to a doctor.

"Basically, pen tops without clips are lethal. A pen top with a clip is fine, but the clip must be as long as the pen top itself otherwise it might just as well not be there."

Mr Mathias's report is now with the Department of Trade which is planning a meeting with pen makers. Manufacturers are said to be keen to put the findings into action.

Rovers returned

One of the biggest problems facing the staff of psychiatric hospitals is making sure that confused and disturbed patients don't wander off. Often the only remedy is to sedate or physically constrain them.

Doctors at the University Hospital in Basle, Switzerland, have devised a more humane alternative. Patients wear a T-shirt with department store-type security sensors stitched into it. They are left free to move around and do as they please. But when they try to wander outside or into a restricted area, a detector on the door sounds the alarm.

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Blood stock

President Reagan's suggestion that Americans worried about AIDS should give blood to be kept for themselves in case they ever need a transfusion has met with a mixed reaction in the States. A National Institutes of Health meeting on AIDS conceded last month that those facing planned surgery should be able to donate their own blood for use during the operation. Storing a person's blood just in case they needed it in future was logistically impractical, however.

In the UK experts contend that so-called autologous blood transfusion is unnecessary even for those facing elective surgery. Blood transfusion centre directors and the Department of Health insist that blood available through the National Blood Transfusion Service (which has been screened for AIDS antibody since October of last year) is safe.

The director of the South London Blood Transfusion Centre, Dr Keith Rogers, said it would take 12 years of biannual donations for a person to build up enough stocks to cover an emergency, and the logistics of storing and correctly retrieving it would be horrendous.

Biting back

Late 20th Century explorers heading for the forests of South America would be advised to arm themselves with sun guns — adapted to treat snake and insect bites by electric shock.

This odd method has been developed by three doctors from Ecuador, Britain and the States. They followed up the tale of an Illinois farmer who reacted severely to bee stings and discovered that he could prevent this by applying a high voltage/low amperage direct current to the site of stings.

Writing in a recent issue of The Lancet the group say that for snake bites "the area is electrically grounded as close to the bite as possible and current is applied via an insulated probe to the bite for one to two seconds. Usually four or five shocks are given with five to ten seconds between them. They point out that an outboard motor is one commonly available source of such a current. A lead carrying an insulated probe can be attached to the spark plug, and the current is best applied with the engine at half throttle.

Other motors with spark plugs such as lawn mowers

have also been used with excellent results, and now they have developed a modified stun gun like the ones used by police to immobilize suspects.

The team has tried the technique on more than 30 people; none of the expected symptoms of an untreated snake bite developed and some were able to go home within an hour of treatment. This group were all treated within 30 minutes of the snake attack, but even a couple of people who were untreated for two hours suffered fewer problems than is usual.

Why this shock treatment works is a mystery. It may either inactivate the venom, or temporarily close blood vessels in the area of the bite — long enough for the venom to lose its power.

Retching reflex

Sufferers from bulimia nervosa (a close cousin of anorexia nervosa) are known to keep their weight in control by alternate bouts of gorging and self-induced vomiting.

Now two doctors at the Institute of Psychiatry in London have discovered that while most people find making themselves sick a grim experience, bulimics do not. Drs Paul Robinson and Letizia Gremi have described in The Lancet how they and a couple of other people found the whole business miserable. It took them between 10 and 15 minutes of retching with tears pouring down their faces, showing that what are called their gag reflexes were in good order.

Six out of seven bulimics, on the other hand, swallowed the bile in a few seconds with no apparent problems. Bulimics will often admit that although they find self-induced vomiting distressing at first, it soon becomes part of their routine and as a result they lose their gag reflex.

Surgery snacks

Before surgery patients are always advised not to eat or drink — often overnight, but in some cases even longer. This is to reduce the risks from involuntary vomiting while on the operating table and to prevent regurgitated food accidentally getting into the lungs.

With increasing numbers of people going into hospital just for a day for simple operations, new advice is needed about what to do before — starving unnecessarily will only increase their anxiety. A study in Canada, recently reported in the British Journal of Anaesthesia has revealed that some patients are expected to starve for as long as 18 hours, but many doctors now believe that three to four hours will suffice.

Olivia Timbs and Lorraine Fraser

Winners in business, losers in love

Many career women have everything except a successful relationship.

A new book attempts to discover why

Now here's a good question: why do so many intelligent, successful and amusing women end up alone or tied to the wrong man? It has just been asked in America by two clinical psychologists and it's made Dr Connell Cowan and Dr Melvyn Kinder's first book, *Smart Women Foolish Choices*, into a paperback best-seller. Today their little pink manual crosses the Atlantic to challenge the unmarried career-girls of Britain, those "smart women who have everything going for them but satisfying personal relationships".

The beauty of the question is that there is a set of pat saloon-bar answers, none of which quite holds water. Some will claim that nice men avoid tough women; others that "feminists" with jobs secretly "hate men" anyway; still others that any girl with a career is automatically so "selfish" that she couldn't possibly attract a decent old-fashioned chap with honourable intentions. Ergo, only a rat or a wimp will marry her.

But because five minutes' thought can produce scores of exceptions to all these rules, we are left with the question, and the problem: there are, say Cowan and Kinder, a "growing number" of exceptionally bright women whose love relationships with men are "disappointing, frustrating and very confusing". What is to be done?

Despite the initial gush and jargon of the book, I warned to it rapidly. It is a dispassionate and occasionally humorous turning-over of the emotional flotsam and jetsam

left on the beach by the ebbing of the feminist Seventies. And make no mistake, these women are definitely on the beach. The Carlas and Melindas and Lonnie and Lynnie of the case-histories present a sorry picture of womanhood baffled and frustrated as never before, cruising the singles bars and dating like teenagers as their biological clocks tick away the fertile months.

They are executives and court reporters and lawyers and doctors; they look good, they have their own flats, and yet nobody seems to want them. Well, not for long, anyway. They are aware of the indignity of their position, but can't understand it: a 35-year-old engineer called Debbie says: "It's not as if I'm looking for the moon — just a nice, decent guy. I'd like to have at least one child, and I know my time is running out. I'm a good listener, I'm as nice as I can be on dates and try to act confident, casual and fun, but I keep scaring them away. Sure I'm feeling desperate — wouldn't you be?"

THOUGH THE setting of these tales may be transatlantic, the problem is instantly recognizable among our own far smaller community of successful and well-paid women. Eva Gottesman of the Institute of Group Analysis, a therapist working in London, recognized the symptoms and observed that with changing times "a lot of things are having to be renegotiated between the sexes". And although we may not yet have elevated it to the status of a



Chris Cowie

Worrying Trend, everyone in a mixed office can probably think of at least one woman whose boardroom acumen fails her, frequently and disastrously, somewhere on the way to the bedroom door. I can think of several who have married men whom they wouldn't have employed to lick stamps in saner moments.

Cowan and Kinder offer many explanations of the phenomenon. The most interesting is that social changes have created a sort of internal generation-gap: a gulf between women's conditioned, unconscious motivation (the search for an omnipotent prince, a strong daddy, a patriarch) and their conscious, modern aspirations.

So you get a woman-of-the-world looking at her man with a secret desire to find him perfect: naturally, with her sophisticated fault-finding perceptions, she finds him wanting and moves on. Or else she manages deliberately to disguise her strength, and plays helpless fluff games, only to explode with resentment later when the poor chap takes this at face value and tries to run her life. "We women are split creatures," Gottesman says,

"We have to ask ourselves what independence actually means. It is time we learned more about interdependence instead."

In healthy relationships, mates tend to take turns parenting each other when needed," say Cowan and Kinder. "A woman must guard against falling into the trap of being endlessly maternal to a man."

Another entertaining insight from the American duo is that all the smartness and success in the world seems unable to prevent women from their traditional pastime of falling head over heels in love with rats, cats and bouncers.

In fact, they say, it is often the most selective and cautious woman who falls for the smooth, deceiving, manipulative rat, simply because she is so hell-bent on finding perfection that she turns approvingly towards the man who has spent most time polishing his image and approach to please women. Rhett Butler lives on.

"Sometimes it is true that women who achieve a great deal become a bit cut off from themselves. There is a gap between thinking and feeling. In that gap is where disasters happen," says Gottesman.

TAKE POOR old Julie, a successful Californian businesswoman with her own luxury beach mansion, who despite prolonged therapy is unable to work out that her 42-year-old and four-times-married lover Grant is never, ever going to settle down; or Melinda, an art gallery curator aged 30, who convinced herself that she was the one woman who could tame a Don Juan artist. The analysts say: "These men are interesting and they do stimulate intense feelings of aliveness and vibrance in women... but are

they really worth a woman's time and love?"

The theory that women get easily hooked on worthless excitement is possibly the one which most betrays the fact that both Connell Cowan and Melvyn Kinder are men. But this in itself is a breakthrough. Books for achieving women on how to manage their lives are generally written by other achieving women.

THESE ARE two men — psychologists, yes, but pretty ordinary men-next-door in their attitudes. As such, they are invaluable guides to the woman who wants just such a normal chap to father a couple of babies and bring in the coal and keep her company as passion fades.

And they can make a moving plea for women to use their brains to spot "diamonds in the rough". There are a lot of men who may not fit the mould that many women have when it comes to "Mr Right" — men who may have visible flaws in behaviour or appearance, or who may be insecure when it comes to initially forming relationships... but these are often men who possess great possibilities. These men are frequently ignored or rejected — some women make their decisions with frightening speed, on superficial and incomplete data.

Well, some men do too, as any stout and spotty lass will ruefully confirm; but all in all, with their homely saws and old-fashioned common sense, tricked out in psychojargon, I suspect that Cowan and Kinder may end up by spreading more sober happiness than Kinsey ever did.

Smart Women Foolish Choices by Dr Connell Cowan and Dr Melvyn Kinder (Bantam, £2.95).

Libby Purves

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THE TIMES DIARY

Liquidating Sukarno

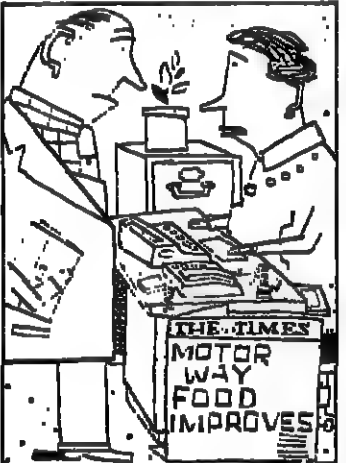
Amazing revelations from the other side of the Atlantic. In a book to be published this autumn, *The CIA: A Forgotten History* (Zed Books), the American author William Blum reproduces part of a sensational 1962 CIA report which suggests Supremacy and JFK talked about "liquidating" the troublesome President Sukarno of Indonesia. The author of the CIA report, which has been declassified under the American Freedom of Information Act, states: "I have concluded from the impressions I have received in conversations with Western diplomats that President Kennedy and PM Mac-

millan agreed on the following matters in their recent meeting and will attempt to carry these things out." He goes on: "They agreed to liquidate President Sukarno, depending upon the situation and available opportunities. (It is not clear to me whether murder or overthrow is intended by the word liquidate)." Sadly for history, the name of the CIA officer who penned this extraordinary report has been deleted.

It apparently refers to a meeting between the leaders in Washington from April 27 to 29, 1962. At the time, Sukarno was vehemently opposed to a British-backed plan to create a Malaysian Federation, consisting of Malaya, Singapore, Sarawak, North Borneo and British-protected Brunei. CIA mischief in the abortive 1958 coup to overthrow Sukarno is well documented. It is not known if any Anglo-US action was taken following the supposed discussion. Sukarno eventually lost power to General Suharto in 1967. He died of natural causes three years later.

Lord Stockton was not available for comment this week, but his grandson, Alexander, tells me that a check on the private papers at his home, Birch Grove, has revealed "no such items" on the Kennedy-Macmillan agenda. One of the most highly-placed MI6 officers at the time assures me he had no knowledge of the alleged discussion. Nor does he believe that liquidate could have meant bumping Sukarno off. "However, they might well have discussed the best way of getting rid of this awkward fellow."

BARRY FANTONI



Faulty tours

Summed Holidays must be regretting housing a party of four from an overbooked "really lovely little family-run hotel" in Crete into what their own brochure described as an "older-style pension, run more like a taverna, with the owners still learning as they go along." The difference in price in the brochure was only £10 a head, but the disappointed party leader threatened legal action and only settled when the company paid out £440. No wonder. He was David Tench, the legal officer of Consumers' Association and consultant to *That's Life*.

One of the detectives investigating the theft of £145,000 worth of cordless telephones from the IMC phone company in Reading, Berkshire, is Det Sgt Rob de Bank.

Illegal tender

As if the Commonwealth Games had not suffered enough, the Post Office has now brought its good name into disrepute. The Advertising Standards Authority has upheld four complaints over press advertisements for the PO's commemorative £2 coin which began: "Old £2 coin now worth £430 - new £2 coin still only £2... so don't miss out." The complainants reasonably pointed out that the 1823 10-pounder was made of gold.

Owed by so few

The Royal Air Forces Association appears to be so strapped for cash that it regards its life members as a "drain". An editorial in its journal notes that 40 per cent of members joined years ago as life members and accuses them of "admirable foresight" in paying a one-off subscription of as little as £5. "It needs to be said that unless life members contribute in other ways... they are a severe drain on the association's financial resources." The editor, Jerry Monk, asks them to become "life-giving members" - i.e. pay the full subs. It seems a bit much to me: those life members who gave a fiver in 1945 had already done a fair bit towards preventing the club being called the British Luftwaffe Association.

PHS

Low wages don't make work

by Alec Nove

"Unemployment in Britain is due, or mainly due, to the fact that wages are too high and rise too fast" - so government ministers and *The Times* are telling us, and the economic models they use tell them just how many hundreds of thousands of jobs depend on a rise or fall in wages. And the constant repetition of this, at best, partial truth, might eventually persuade a credulous public that the basic problem of the British economy is that the trade unions insist on their members being overpaid, and ignore the interests of the unemployed.

Much has been said on the short-sightedness and obstructionism of many British trade unions. I will not deny that excessive wage rises can put firms out of business. Yet the official doctrine is seriously misleading in three fundamental ways.

First, the model used by the government's advisers gives the answer that it does because it is programmed to do so. There is an assumed substitutability of labour for capital, an assumed marginal propensity to employ more at a lower wage. That is to say, if wages were lower then labour would be substituted for capital, and employers would hire more workers. Maybe, but how many? Suppose a company has 20 machines and 20 word processors. It will not

employ more labour than is needed to operate them, even if it would cost them a little less. With a given capital stock it is by no means clear how many extra persons would be employed if real wages were to fall by (say) 10 per cent and all else remained equal. While there would probably be some positive effect, there would be a 10 per cent fall in real income of the working population, which would reduce aggregate demand.

I have repeatedly seen models in which real wages fall and output rises in a closed economy, with never a word as to who would buy the extra output or why in these circumstances it should be profitable to invest in expanding capacity. Underlying all these models is a quasi-religious belief in *laissez-faire* extended to the labour market. It is believed that "markets clear" - in other words, that supply and demand will balance, and that all factors of production will find buyers - if there is no government or union interference.

I once heard it argued that markets for bananas clear, so why not for labour? But if the price of bananas falls, due to lower demand, production can be cut. Even the most extreme *laissez-faire* fanatic could not advocate the human equivalent of chopping down an unprofitable banana plantation.

Second, when compared with our principal European competitors, British wages are low, as are social-security contributions and welfare benefits. Further, in recent years British wages have not in fact risen against those of West Germany, France or Scandinavia (or Japan), when allowance is made for sterling depreciation.

Let me illustrate: suppose in two years average money wages in Britain have risen by 15 per cent, while those in West Germany have gone up by only 7 per cent. Does this indicate a fall in British competitiveness? Not at all, since in the past two years the Deutschmark has appreciated by more than this difference (it is appreciating fast now).

Third, if with relatively low wages *vis-à-vis* our European competitors we still find ourselves uncompetitive, this suggests a whole complex of possible reasons. Lower labour productivity? Yes, but why? What of investment in research and development? Neglect of quality management? What of other causes? Design? Credit terms? Marketing? What of the cost of factors other than labour, such as energy, or interest on borrowed capital? Better and cheaper infrastructure? Unemployment rises when firms

close. High labour costs could be one reason, but others may well be decisive. Have the *laissez-faire* ideologists ever made an industry-by-industry survey of competitiveness? British lorries and buses are being increasingly driven off the road by European competitors who pay much higher wages.

More jobs are unlikely to materialize without more investment, private and public, and more public-sector investment generates jobs and profits in the private sector.

The ideologists object to public-sector capital spending because it would "crowd out" private investment and force up interest rates. Yet their own "privatization" policies lead them to divert private investment funds into the purchase of state assets - which creates not a single extra job, "crowds out" genuine new investment and contributes to the maintenance of high interest rates.

There is a wage problem. But let us keep a sense of proportion. A visiting German recently asked me: "Why is unemployment so much higher in Britain when wages are so much lower?" A good starting point, this, for serious thinking.

The author is professor emeritus in the department of international economic studies at the University of Glasgow.

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Richard Ford on the wider effects of IRA intimidation of business

The Provos' easiest coup

The Provisional IRA has probably been taken aback by the success of its campaign of intimidation against contractors working for the security forces in Northern Ireland. Recent defections, notably by the leading British builder Laing from a maintenance contract at RAF Aldergrove, have provided a remarkable propaganda coup at a time of diminishing terrorist returns. This week's extension of the intimidation to local suppliers had an instantaneous effect.

By attacking isolated RUC stations and then threatening contractors prepared to carry out repairs, the Provisionals are using a tactic from the 1920s, when the objective was to force the Royal Irish Constabulary to retreat to heavily fortified regional barracks. Michael McAlamney, Deputy Chief Constable of the RUC, has recently declared that the force will not be driven from its stations. But what the Provisionals want this time is to undermine police morale, reduce their operational capacity, and test the resolve of the government in the belief that over a long period they can sap Britain's will to remain in the north.

Business people - five killed in the present campaign so far, one mistakenly - provide the gunmen with the softest of targets, and ripple effects are felt throughout the community, particularly in rural areas where such deaths have enormous unsettling potential.

The Provisionals will have calculated that the killings will probably leave their base support unaffected, though working class supporters may be rather more critical at job losses caused by contractors withdrawing from sites. Such tactics will also unnerve those Roman Catholics who have been prepared to soften their attitudes towards the police, and will make it much more difficult for the government to encourage leading nationalists to publicly declare their backing for the force. Already one Roman Catholic member of the Northern Ireland police authority has resigned after a death threat from the Provisionals.

In concentrating their efforts in the counties west of the River Bann, the Provisionals shrewdly recognize the difficulties posed to the RUC in policing a vast area with a growing Roman Catholic population. Many local merchants, greengrocers and bread companies



Newry, scene of the worst of the recent spate of attacks on RUC stations. Nine officers died

in this area were quick to announce after the most recent threat that they would not be providing provisions for the police. This could be little more than a forerunner of what is to follow, with the RUC planning for policing into the next century in a part of the province where they privately recognize they may be operating among a sullen, if not actively hostile, population.

If large numbers of firms supplying everything from sophisticated telecommunications to bread and milk do eventually heed the Provisionals' warning, the government will be faced with a major logistical problem. The Army, with 10,600 troops in the province, has developed a degree of self-sufficiency, but there are a further 22,000 locally based members of the Ulster Defence Regiment, RUC and prison service. Supplying them through outside contractors would be a huge and costly undertaking involving air drops, as already occur to isolated bases in hostile territory in Armagh and parts of Belfast.

For the Provisionals the latest extension of their campaign has given a remarkable fillip. Over the years the security forces have slowly but surely pushed the

terrorists further into rural Northern Ireland, so that there is increasing talk of the campaign now resembling a border war. Until this week the Provisionals had not killed a member of the security forces in Belfast for 16 months. Criticisms of the Provisionals' inactivity and operational failures have led to an upheaval in the Belfast brigade and a new commanding officer there. Elsewhere, violence is most frequent in rural areas with off-duty members of the security forces providing the terrorists with easy targets.

The warning to people the terrorists describe as "civilian hirelings" came because, according to the Provisional IRA, it could no longer tolerate the activities of business interests assisting British rule in the north. But they have also taken advantage of an RUC building programme that has involved £53m being spent in the past five years with another £150m allocated for the next 10 years, including £60m which will be spent on projects designed to improve outdated and inadequate facilities and provide accommodation for a force that has expanded fourfold since 1969. The official nationalist view, as expressed by Gerry Adams, Provisional Sinn Féin MP for West Belfast, is: "The business class are growing rich on the backs of this struggle."

In a small place like Northern Ireland the terrorists and their allies have found it easy to discover the companies involved in the building work and in some cases the directors and their home addresses. As one security source said: "It's a rural community. No one has any secrets."

By killing businessmen and bombing RUC bases the Provisionals have achieved maximum propaganda value for minimum effort. There is little surprise in the timing of their latest warning to suppliers and contractors to the security forces that they will be considered "our enemies". It appeared as the province approaches another of its rituals - tomorrow's commemoration of the 15th anniversary of internment - and as the US fundraisers, Noraid, are on a tour with the smallest delegation for some years.

And August is the "silly season", when lack of news elsewhere guarantees more extensive coverage for stories from Ireland. The Provos, masters of propaganda, haunt the silly season.

Tim Jones looks at the manoeuvring behind the scenes at the London championship

Beyond the board, a real chess game

nothing less than control of the World Chess Federation (Fide) itself. The heavy artillery has been uncovered, and the defences exposed to deposed champion Campomanes who in November, during the Chess Olympiad in Dubai, will be striving to retain his position as president of Fide.

The very mention of the name of the dapper, well-groomed Filipino is enough, at the Park Lane, to release a torrent of abuse. He is, according to his detractors, a master of intrigue whose dictatorial domination of the world body has been enough to threaten its very fabric.

More seriously, it is alleged that he blatantly favours Karpov over Kasparov. At face value, the evidence for this is hard to refute, and stems from his extraordinary intervention in the first match between the two men in Moscow in 1984. After five months, with Karpov, then champion, leading by five games to three Campomanes arrived in Moscow and abruptly ended the match

when it was clear to every observer that Kasparov's strategy of physically wearing down his opponent was succeeding.

A Fide resolution after his intervention "thanking him for his initiative" was greeted with great derision, although he explained he took his action because the match had "exhausted the physical, if not the psychological, resources not only of the participants, but of all those connected with the match".

During last year's rematch, which Kasparov won, Campomanes - a friend and admirer of Ferdinand Marcos, the former president of the Philippines - was further accused of directly aiding Karpov in trying to retrieve £340,000 owed to the grandmaster in Germany as a result of a commercial transaction.

Campomanes is also the central figure in the decision to hold the forthcoming Chess Olympics Congress in Dubai, a move that has outraged the international Jewish community as Israel will not be able to take part. The Third World

vote was crucial in Campomanes's election to the presidency in 1982 and the 10-vote Arab bloc could help him retain that position and a lifestyle which includes apartments in Lucerne and Madrid.

Disaffection with his leadership is so great that some countries have formed or are forming independent chess federations, vowing to remain outside the fold until Campomanes is deposed. For his part, Campomanes alleges that there is a conspiracy against him engineered by a small band of activists in the higher echelons of the chess world.

One reason for the intense politicking at the Park Lane Hotel and elsewhere is that Kasparov retains his title the Soviet establishment will be forced to recognize an elephant when it is parked on their doorstep and switch their allegiance firmly behind Kasparov. This would almost certainly mean that all the Communist countries would, at Dubai, vote for Lincoln Lucena of Brazil, the candidate who has the backing of the world champion.

Some months ago, Kasparov charged that "world chess is run by an international chess mafia". He added: "We must try to do something now, because this is the moment to get rid of the Fide leadership. Our fight is on behalf of the honest people in chess."

With four months to go before the elections, the manoeuvring, the accusations and the counter claims will become more bitter. The Fidegate affair will rumble on.

David Watt

Mrs Thatcher's costly triumph

The barely suppressed sound of crowing from the direction of Downing Street proclaims the Prime Minister's belief that she has won a famous victory at the Commonwealth mini-summit. In a limited sense she is right: she has got away with a minimum sanctions package, and the Commonwealth has not broken up. In her own mind, moreover, satisfaction at this practical achievement will have faded beside the dazzling pleasure of having, as she believes, asserted Britain's right to protect its interests against meddling and blackmail from the likes of Kaunda, Mugabe and Ramphal, and having stood out single-handed for principle against the masses of wets and hypocrites in the Cabinet and the Foreign Office. The triumph, such as it is, is undeniable. But at a cost.

In the first place, British policy towards South Africa now has no coherent basis whatever. The strategy proposed by Sir Geoffrey Howe and the Foreign Office throughout this affair has not been particularly heroic, but at least it has been consistent and pragmatic. Conceding that sanctions will probably do no practical good, they have nevertheless argued that once opinion in the United States turned decisively towards sanctions last year there was no realistic possibility of Britain avoiding them entirely.

The corollary was that since we could not avoid action, the best way of limiting the amount we would have to do - and at the same time maintaining the initiative in the EEC and the Commonwealth - would be to make sure that we got full propaganda value for what we actually did. This entailed acting with reasonably good grace, orchestrating a lowest common denominator consensus with all our partners, including the US and Japan, and oiling the wheels with liberal applications of the right kind of culminating rhetoric against apartheid.

This strategy - which was already barely credible after the Prime Minister's performance at Nassau - is now in smithereens. We have, as forecast, been obliged to open the Pandora's Box of sanctions, but because of the manner of our concessions we have got nothing for them: except much of the ill-will we should have earned by doing nothing.

Furthermore, Mrs Thatcher's final choice between the sanctions available cannot be logically explained. The ban on trade in coal and steel which she has agreed to will cause the loss of more black jobs in South Africa and considerably more damage to British companies (BP, for example, has considerable investments in South African coal) than that on fruit and vegetables which she has violently rejected.

Again, why the fanatical opposition to a ban on air links? This would, in fact, allow British Airways to go on operating quite profitably in Botswana and Zimbabwe, leaving the onward

connections to local airlines. The possibility that, say, Swissair would pick up some of BA's direct flight business to Johannesburg is far less significant than the prospect that BA, and hard-pressed British Caledonian, may now suffer the loss of valuable existing routes in West and Central Africa.

The more one looks at this hotchpotch, the more one is forced to the conclusion that the Prime Minister has brushed aside logic and said: "These horrible, sanctimonious, hypocritical people are making me go along with a stupid policy. Very well, I shall show them what I think of them by refusing to do more than half of what they demand. So there."

One can sympathize with this irritation. Rationally speaking, economic sanctions are indeed stupid; there is also a good deal of hypocrisy about some of their proponents. Mrs Thatcher need have no concern about the British public's reactions, either. She will lose very few votes by being truculent with black Africans.

And yet it is still self-indulgent of her to let these emotions dictate policy. It is dangerous, too, for it encourages a totally unrealistic view of the international scene, and Britain's place in it. The facts of life do not permit us the luxury of Mrs Thatcher's brand of Little England nationalism. Our economy is weak and vulnerable to external forces, among which our Southern African interests are a small consideration. We are obliged to live by our wits and ingratiate ourselves with all sorts of tiresome Continentals and Third World parvenus whom we would formerly have been able to browbeat or ignore. Our international interest in the next 20 years will depend increasingly on intangible elements of goodwill and on our ability to turn collaborative and multi-national enterprises to our advantage.

The Commonwealth, as such, is not absolutely essential to this effort; but we cannot afford to ignore the fact that countries like India and Nigeria are serious actors on the world's stage as well as being major trading partners of our own, and that the Commonwealth itself is not just a useful vehicle for British influence but an organization which, if we behave with some sympathetic imagination, can help to soften the potentially calamitous clash between the West and the forces of anti-Western nationalism still rising in the Third World.

The South African affair has demonstrated once again that Sir Geoffrey Howe, who has grasped these realities, is probably not the best person to impart them to the prime minister. His laboured lawyer's sagacity now seems to inflame her as much as African moralism. But the truth is that her background and her temperament are hostile to the message; and so long as her Cabinet is so supine as to let her conduct British foreign policy according to their dictates, our true interests will suffer.

moreover... Miles Kington

A bedouin's day out

Alan Mayron-Davis and I once found ourselves traipsing the endless corridors of one of those well-padded hotels just off Hyde Park Corner looking for a room to change in. Apart from bedroom doors, there was nothing in those featureless passages except the occasional tray full of sand. They looked too big to be ashtrays, but I could think of no other function for them. I asked Alan if he had any theory.

"Yes," he said. "They are for Arab guests so that, when they get homesick, they can climb in them and walk around for a bit."

This evocative sentence reverberated in my mind long afterwards. I had never before wondered where restless Arabs might go when stuck in London. We all have a vague image of Britons in Arabia becoming homesick and looking for pubs, but what do Arabs do?

Share the Riyadh Experience! said the airship floating over London this week. Come to Riyadh! said the posters. Of course! Had not the Saudis recreated the city of Riyadh inside Olympia, in what was billed as the largest temporary structure anywhere. Would that not be the place for rootless Arabs? Would they not flock to the capital of Saudi Arabia if it were conveniently situated in West Ken?

I have been to Milton Keynes, that brave attempt to hide every new building behind a row of trees, but it did not prepare me for the concept of Riyadh, a city of a million and a half people which has, over a few years, grown out of something no bigger than a large county town. In Olympia they have rebuilt part of the old town walls; ironic, as they have been knocked down in Riyadh. They have also put in two camels, a lot of sand, four falcons, a fine bedouin tent and a well with real water. But this is only a prelude to the huge attempt to persuade us that Riyadh is really a great city of glass buildings, schools, marble offices and the prettiest airport in the world.

So bombarded was I with information by the Ministry of Information that I can now remember only three facts: that Riyadh means "gardens", that a

new school opens in Saudi Arabia every two weeks, and that more than 2,000 Koreans work at the airport. But as you wander round the show, one thing comes through loud and clear: they have built a huge, modern city so fast that the old, restless, nomadic spirit of the bedouin has vanished overnight into a build-it-big American mentality.

Or has it? This show, after all, has already been to Germany, and is due to go on to Paris, New York, Japan and elsewhere. Maybe this Experience is just a bedouin tent on a huge scale, restlessly looking for somewhere new to camp?

The crowds were enormous, and varied, too: there were so many flowing Indian robes, Lebanese costumes, Caribbean get-ups and Sikh turbans among the public that the Arabs on display had a hard job looking exotic. But what I didn't see was much sign of those homesick Arabs of whom I had gone in search.

Eventually the whole thing seemed so crowded that I went in search of peace in Leighton House. This, scarcely half a mile from Olympia, is the house that the wealthy Victorian painter, Lord Leighton, built as what he thought an Arab house should be. The cool, tiled interior still stands: the fountain still splashes exotically in the Arab hall; the elaborate screen work still gives mysterious glimpses of the rooms beyond.

When I arrived, the place was quite empty except for the Irish superintendent, looking at his watch and hoping to lock up soon. I asked him if the goings-on at Olympia had boosted his attendances. "Definitely," he said. "Why, today was much fuller than ever. Normally we average about 70 people a day. But today we were way up to 112 visitors!"

The excess, I'll be bound, consisted of those homesick Arabs, come for a moment's peace and Lord Leighton's spring waterworks. Next week the Riyadh caravan moves on, splendid and circus-like, but Leighton House remains. Perhaps they should call it the Leighton Experience.

All that worries me now is those 2,000 Koreans working at Riyadh airport. Where do they go when they are feeling homesick?

hatcher's triumph

... Miles Kingston
douin's
y out



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THE MISSING LEADERS

The determination of Northern Ireland's more violently-inclined unionists to reduce the popularity of their cause yet further seems to know no bounds. As the events of Thursday night were pieced together yesterday, there emerged a picture of convoys of cars zig-zagging across South Armagh bent on provoking violence in a Roman Catholic enclave. Frustrated by the police, parts of the convoy crossed the border and "invaded" a tiny village in the Republic. An event at one and the same time menacing, farcical and sad.

When the reverberations die down, it may be that the elements of farce will stay uppermost in our minds. But this bizarre episode raises two less entertaining questions beyond the immediate issues (who did what and why?) so noisily rehearsed in Monaghan yesterday.

The first of these is the suggestion that there is a determined effort afoot to make this weekend one of widespread violence. The Government has—so far—brought the Hillsborough Agreement through the loyalist marching season with relatively little violence compared to the dreadful predictions of earlier in the year.

Some 1800 marches have been completed and there are only a few hundred more to come before this week, only six had been the scene of serious violence. There have been a few appallingly ugly attacks on senior police officers during negotiations on the routes for marches but the hard-liners who wanted to see unionist resistance set alight have been disappointed. At least some of the credit for this encouraging balance sheet goes to those moderate unionist community leaders and politicians who set out to neutralise the influence of

those who arrived looking for trouble.

The events of Thursday night suggest that disappointed men are trying to raise the stakes. This weekend sees a number of marches which may cause trouble in Roman Catholic areas; or if rerouted, provoke confrontations with the police. And that is only on the loyalist side; nationalists traditionally spend this weekend marking the anniversary of the 1971 internment swoops. In the background, the IRA is reaping the quick propaganda benefits of its extended threat to security force suppliers. Once again the province relies heavily on the nerve and skill of the police commanders out on the ground.

The second question provoked by Thursday's hide and seek concerns the leadership of unionism. The existence of the Hillsborough Agreement increased the importance of an issue which has faced unionists since the creation of Northern Ireland. Do they wish to link their future to the United Kingdom or do they wish to fashion it alone?

If it is to be any real kind of union, and not the chimera of independence, then it follows that the type of union cannot be defined by Northern Ireland alone. The Government, and by extension the electorate, of the whole country is bound to have some say in the matter. This basic truth, which underlies the Hillsborough Agreement, is accepted by some unionists.

But they are not the unionists whose voice is being heard. Unionism is at the moment being led by those carloads of men in South Armagh. There is a vast majority of unionists who dislike and fear the consequences of Hillsborough but who prefer peaceful protest within the law. There seem to be few leaders for them, how-

ever. Mr James Molyneux, the leader of the Official Unionists, should be foremost among those who are prepared to try and lead unionism in this direction and away from force.

At the moment, unionist opinion seems to be divided into three segments. There are those who are ready to take the risk of breaking the link with London in order to mobilise self-defence against the South and who make little secret of their readiness to take violent action. Mr Peter Robinson's escapade in Monaghan is part of his drive to secure the allegiance of this group.

There are the traditional supporters of the OUP who are law-abiding but wish to ensure that their worst fears about the Hillsborough Agreement leading to forced unification with the South do not come about. Many of them are succumbing to the false lure of arguments for integration. A third, and very small, group would like to make an early and profitable accommodation with the South and secure the best terms possible within a federal Ireland.

Fifteen years ago, with some encouragement from London, the unionist political monolith broke into the two parts which are now represented by Dr Paisley and Mr Molyneux. Far from isolating extremism in a minority, the split has now yoked moderation to extremism. Mr Molyneux appears unable to find any distinctive voice that is his own and meekly follows Dr Paisley's leadership. There are indications that behind him is a potential constituency of people who wish to protest against Hillsborough but wish to make sure that it is only done in a way which obeys the rules of the country to which they wish to remain united. They are entitled to better leadership.

SEASON OF STRIFE

Mr Norman Tebbit blames the silly season for the rash of stories concerning his crumbling hold on the Prime Minister's confidence. He has a certain degree of justification for his complaint.

A pebble tossed into August's calm parliamentary pond will inevitably produce more ripples than one hurled into October's choppy waters. At this time of the year some of those ripples may be forced into patterns that owe more to the laws of physics than to politics. The relationship of rift to resignation, for example, is not as that of night to day.

Familiar assumptions are too often made. The fact that newspaper stories hostile to Mr Tebbit come regularly from the friends of Mr Peter Walker does not mean that they do so always. The fact that Conservatives sometimes criticise Mr Tebbit as a convenient surrogate for the Prime Minister does not mean that they are doing so in this particular case.

And yet, however seasonal

its impact in the press, the hard pebble of fact remains. The Prime Minister has woken up to the reality that in the battle for an unprecedented third term of office, her head—and her head alone—is on the electoral block. Others, including Mr Tebbit, may live to fight another day.

More than at either of the two previous elections, the issue will be her governance of Britain and her capacity to create an administration in which the nation can have confidence. That does not mean that she should present herself as a one-woman band. Indeed the evidence of the polls is that on key policy areas such as the health and education services Mrs Thatcher has acute electoral difficulties. She needs to be the leader of a team. She needs to be a credible leader of a credible and united team.

Mrs Thatcher is loyal to her personal allies. That loyalty has extended well beyond the call of duty in respect of the staff who let her down in the Westland affair. She must now

decide whether it has also been excessive in the case of Mr Tebbit.

For all his well-known courage under the heaviest personal and political fire, will he be effective in the electoral task ahead? Does he need to change his ways? If so, how?

The time for questioning is short. The diplomatic sideways shunting of Mr Harvey Thomas into a new job of organising the Prime Minister's personal appearances is a small matter. It clears the way for a new Director of Communications whose role will also be rigorously confined unless some amity breaks out over the choice of agency to carry out the Party's political research and advertising.

Mr Tebbit himself is entitled to have his position made clear. Mrs Thatcher's instinctive solution to office problems is to bypass them, to take a greater load upon informal groups of advisers and upon herself. It has never been her surest instinct.

SECOND-BEST BUSH

Mr Guy Vander Jagt, a Republican from the state of Michigan, is canvassing votes in the House of Representatives to repeal the 22nd Amendment to the constitution of the United States. This is the amendment inspired by the Republican Party in 1947 as a way of denigrating the memory of Franklin Roosevelt. He had won four consecutive terms in the White House; the amendment forbade any future incumbent to stand for presidential office more than once more. But now Mr Vander Jagt and—he hopes—the millions who will sign his petition want the law changed to allow President Reagan to stand again.

The President is popular, still highly popular, mid-way through his second term. Republicans not only want to win; the party's elders want to avoid internal ideological battles, and the great electoral umbrella spread above them by Ronald Reagan would ensure peace.

What does a draft-the-President movement say about Mr Bush, vice-president, heir-apparent and, to judge from this week's polls, the front-runner? It surely says nothing complimentary. Mr Vander Jagt's crusade to change the law is likely to fail. It has, however, already suggested that Mr Bush is a second-best candidate. He will remain

vulnerable, perhaps right up to the convention, to some movement to draft a glamorous figure from outside the ranks of serving Republican politicians.

Mr Bush cannot be faulted for his assiduous efforts to prevent himself becoming a mere appendage to the White House machine. Like Walter Mondale before him he has used the perks of office to travel and speak and, pre-condition of political mobility in the United States, to be photographed. There was Mr Bush last week in Jerusalem with yamulka (and camera crew); this week it is Kalamazoo, still with camera crew.

The effort has paid off. The indications yesterday were that Republican-registered voters in Michigan were favouring delegates committed to Mr Bush in the earliest test of his standing in the party. But enthusiasm for the Vice-President is another matter. Though, by common assent, Mr Bush's political manners are less stilted than before, he continues to lack wide appeal. Among his early competitors, Jack Kemp has more smart ideas and Pat Robertson a broadcast pulpit; in the wings Senators Dole and Laxalt offer Republican loyalty without commitment to President Reagan's fiscal policies.

All seem better placed to stir

hearts and minds than Mr Bush whose recent efforts to turn himself into a political brawler by attacking Governor Cuernio lost him respect. Mr Bush seems at odds with the times. His Texan connection could be a liability now the oil business is slumping.

Abroad, Mr Bush offers a safe pair of hands into which to put the management of SDF. Indeed the defence of the West. But where is the geopolitical vision? Some Europeans have found the revival of American nationalism under President Reagan hard to take; they have feared the hard edges of his anti-Communism. But they could never doubt that the President spoke from deep within America, articulating popular beliefs and shaping an American identity for the 1980s. Vice-President Bush seems cerebral and insubstantial by comparison.

The moral is not to repeal the 22nd Amendment but to hope that in the by-ways of the procedure for selecting presidential candidates (which has a long way to go) two things might happen. One is that there might emerge some more vital spokesmen for the American temper. The other is that in the heat of debate and political dialectic Mr Bush finds a voice and a presence more suited to the high office he so evidently desires.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Commonwealth and South Africa

From Lord Home of The Hirsel
Sir, Now that we have all had time to digest the contents of the communiqué of the mini-Commonwealth meeting there are one or two conclusions that must be valid.

First, the future constitutional and political pattern of South Africa must be settled in Africa, by Africans, for Africans of all races. The necessary programme of conciliation and co-operation cannot be brought about by any shotgun wedding organised by outsiders.

Secondly, voluntary sanctions as a means to achieve a political aim are at best peripheral and as full of holes as a sieve. Effective sanctions would need to be universal, mandatory and, in the case of South Africa, enforced by a naval blockade.

With the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe talking lightly of arming all southern Africa, few are likely to entangle themselves in such military action.

Lastly, all Commonwealth leaders should regard deeply as to whether they really wish to turn the Commonwealth Secretariat into an executive instrument dealing in the political issues concerning its members.

A number of Commonwealth countries run one-party states; others, including Britain in Northern Ireland, India in relation to the Sikhs, Sri Lanka and the Tamiils, have racial and religious problems which are stubborn and certainly cannot be solved by intervention from outside nor by sanctions.

Surely the role of the Commonwealth is to meet, to learn and then to act individually as each government thinks best, and not to try to lobby and pressure one member or another to take action against its judgement. That was the concept of the Statute of Westminster and we would be wise to stick to it.

Yours faithfully,
HOME
The Hirsel,
Coldstream, Berwickshire,
August 6.

From Mr A. F. Wigram
Sir, Let us assume that all Commonwealth leaders wish to bring about a peaceful, lasting, fair and democratic constitutional settlement in South Africa. If this is the case then they must draw a distinction between punitive measures designed to illustrate justified detestation of South African racial policies and the constructive measures which might win the

confidence of the powers that be in South Africa that a fair, lasting, democratic solution could be a possible alternative.

If we agree to impose sanctions now, then we must ask ourselves what further steps we are prepared to take when sanctions fail. Are we prepared to supply sophisticated weapons of war and military training to the front-line states? If not, are we prepared to stand by and watch whilst such supply and training are obtained from elsewhere? Are we prepared to commit our own forces against the present South African regime? If not, are we prepared to stand by and watch whilst such forces are obtained from elsewhere?

If the answers to these questions is no, then the Commonwealth leaders must look for answers elsewhere. They could begin by publicly recognising the difficulty of the problem; by committing themselves absolutely to a policy of non-violence; by recognising that any constitutional settlement is going to take a long time to introduce and may well involve novel territorial ideas, including federalisation, which could give local majorities and internal self-government to white, coloured and tribal areas.

They could go on by seeking to increase trade, sport, business and all other contacts with South Africa, thus exploiting to the utmost the relaxation of racial discrimination in that country and building confidence on the possibility of future relationships.

Finally, they could end by encouraging and promoting multi-party democracy in their own countries and an end to inter-racial discrimination.

Such measures must at least have some chance of winning increasing support from white liberals and in all probability would prove a much quicker route to fairness and justice in South Africa than anything to be achieved by sanctions and the escalating violence which would inevitably follow, probably over a 15 to 20 year period.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY WIGRAM,
6 Queen Street,
Mayfair, W1,
August 4.

From Mr Clive Dennis
Sir, I have not been so ashamed of my country since Munich.

Yours faithfully,
CLIVE DENNIS,
22 St Mary's Green,
Ashford, Kent.

Faith and reason

From Mr Sydney Shenton
Sir, Worthwhile theology has always had to question and enquire, and with the increasing availability of the fruits of many kinds of scholarship investigation has inevitably become more searching. We now know far more about the authorship and content of biblical texts and the life and times of Jesus than ever before. The great wonder and encouragement is that with understanding and discernment the whole of this knowledge serves to strengthen and enlighten the Gospel and render its meaning deeper and of increased relevance.

Unfortunately the situation appears to have increased the tensions and division between some pastors and scholars, but this stress needs to be borne and conquered. To seek spiritual and all aspects of truth is surely an essential Christian duty. It is both wrong and very dangerous to ignore the unfolding revelations of knowledge, and science and reason must prevail in all our work and endeavour.

Our Catholic brethren have recently set a heartening example, liberal theologians and conser-

vative Vatican circles listening and learning from each other and joining forces with the great spiritual resources at their disposal to attempt to alleviate the dreadful problems of deprivation in South America and elsewhere.

Let us hope and trust that Anglicans liberal and traditionalist will similarly hearken and reflect so that we may all join together to combat together to greater purpose the mounting forces of evil and materialism.

Myth of ancient and mysterious dimension may be retained, even cherished, but we cannot shirk its identification. It is quite unreasonable to state that there are certain traditional received truths which must not be challenged. Truth in its very essence and literal meaning must welcome the impact of new knowledge and information and survive. If it requires alteration or modification from this constant searching examination, and fails to do so, it simply ceases to be truth.

Sincerely,
SYDNEY SHENTON,
95 The Crescent,
Davenport,
Stockport, Cheshire,
July 29.

Lost chords

From Deaconess Vivienne Lake
Sir, If Mr Meredith (August 5) will come to St Paul's in early morning, as the pale light streams through the dome, he will find the great cathedral a place of meditation, and the side-chapel used for Mattins and Holy Communion a place of living prayer. Worship continues during the day, despite the noise of people—the jewel of God's creation—and a chapel is set aside for private prayer.

I cannot but rejoice that the world does not pass by, but enters to pay its sometimes unwitting tribute and worship to God. And unfortunately, cathedrals such as St Paul's and Ely need vast sums of money to survive.

Cut off

From Mr Michael Berger
Sir, I can assure Lady Macdonald of Macdonald (July 30) that her experiences with British Telecom are not confined to the Western Isles or to small businesses.

Our company are involved with international exhibitions worldwide and our operation is what I believe our American friends call "verbal-communications-intensive".

We have experienced precisely the same problems as Lady Macdonald has described and the local British Telecom engineers are welcomed very much as old friends, not least because of their cheerfulness and willingness to help.

However, we are consulting our solicitors as to what redress we may expect from British Telecom for the disruption to our substantial business. I strongly advise Lady Macdonald to do the same.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL BERGER,
Andry Montgomery Ltd,
11 Manchester Square, W1,
July 31.

On first-name terms

From the Chairman of the Royal College of Nursing Society of Geriatric Medicine
Sir, I read with some disquiet the letter from Dr T. Van der Cammen (July 29) regarding the manner in which elderly patients are addressed in departments of geriatric medicine.

In 1975 a report, *Improving Geriatric Care in Hospital*, produced by the combined efforts of the British Geriatrics Society and the Royal College of Nursing was published with the following recommendation:

Identity and dignity: A patient should be addressed by his proper name. Some patients may prefer to be known by a first name, or a familiar pet name—but this should only be used in response to their expressed preference and with their permission.

The report is recommended reading for all qualified nurses who care for elderly people.

Yours faithfully,
P. D. BLIGHT, Chairman,
R.C.N. Society of Geriatric Nursing,
20 Cavendish Square, W1,
August 4.

Travel without let or hindrance

From Mr J. B. McCooke

Sir, With reference to "A kingdom's feeble calling card" (feature, August 5), my father's 1923 passport begins:

We George Nathaniel, Marquess Curzon of Kedleston, Earl of Kedleston, Viscount Scarsdale, Baron Ravensdale, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, a member of His Britannic Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, Knight Grand Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, &c. &c. &c. His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Request and require in the name of his Majesty...

What splendid confidence that must have given the traveller!

Yours faithfully,
J. B. MCCOOKE,
9 Lodge Crescent,
West Hagley,
Stourbridge,
West Midlands,
August 5.

From Mr Peter Pugh
Sir, If we want to know why we find it difficult to compete in the modern industrial world we need look no further than the application form for a passport.

When applying for a passport one has to send a photograph, signed on the back by a Commonwealth Citizen who knows you personally, and who is a Member of Parliament, Justice of the Peace, Minister of Religion, Doctor, Lawyer, Bank Officer, Established Civil Servant, School Teacher, Police Officer, or a person of similar standing.

In other words, those are the people that the authorities respect as worthy citizens. There is not a single person there who actually creates any wealth. Is it surprising that the manufacturing profession which does create the wealth that these "respectable" professions depend on fails to attract the best brains in the land?

Yours faithfully,
PETER PUGH,
Old Webbs,
West Green,
Barrington,
Cambridgeshire,
August 3.

Parking tickets

From Mrs B. A. Dinsdale
Sir, I have recently had cause to write and return to the Chief Clerk of the Metropolitan Police some parking tickets left lying outside my front gate and in my neighbour's garden. We frequently find these tickets blowing along the road where ignorant "litter leuts" throw them away. I am sure we can't be the only road in London to experience this!

In this day and age when great emphasis is being made to clean up our cities could not a system be devised whereby these tickets could be issued without causing litter?

My suggestion would be to actually stick them to a car window.

Yours faithfully,
BEVERLEY A. DINSDALE,
5 Carmal Gardens,
Putney, SW15,
August 1.

Cat fleas

From Professor R. S. Anderson
Sir, Cats are kept in about 20 per cent of British households and cat fleas are certainly not uncommon. Your headline, "Cat fleas can kill," says scientists (August 4) will, therefore, have been a matter for serious concern to one in five households throughout the land (indeed to more than one in five of Times readers since cats are relatively more popular among the AB social group).

The inclusion of Aids under this headline, even though it is qualified as "the cat version", will have guaranteed an even greater level of concern and some will have been left with the lingering impression that cat fleas are in some way associated with Aids.

Since the role of cat fleas even in transmitting feline leukaemia from cat to cat is, at best, speculative, it is quite unwarrantable and unnecessarily worrying for millions of cat owners to include any mention of Aids in an ostensibly authoritative article about cat fleas. It could lead to the needless euthanasia of many cats.

Yours faithfully,
R. S. ANDERSON,
The University of Liverpool,
Department of Animal Husbandry,
Leahurst,
Neston, South Wirral,
August 5.

Uncertain glory

From Mr Alan V. Chubb
Sir, So England won 52 two gold medals at the Commonwealth Games. Fifty-two times Edward Elgar must have turned in his grave as a truncated version of his fine tune from the first "Pomp and Circumstance" march was played in honour of the victor's country. It was also rhythmically incorrect.

True, the sentiments expressed in "Land of Hope and Glory" may be considered inapt in the context of current politics, and the emphasis should be placed more on the former rather than the latter attribute; but this should not, of itself, be an excuse to tamper with one of the most stirring melodies ever written.

Yours faithfully,
A. V. CHUBB,
Signal-Elm,
Wood Lane,
Kidmore End,
Reading, Berkshire,
August 3.

ON THIS DAY

AUGUST 8 1865

On July 14, 1865 the Matterhorn was climbed for the first time by Edward Whymper and his party—Charles Hudson, D. R. Hadow, Lord Francis Douglas and three guides—Michael Croc and the Taugwelders, father and son. The tragic descent is described in Whymper's own words. The Times on July 27 thundered, "What is the use of scaling precipitous rocks...? What is he [the mountaineer] doing there, and what right has he to throw away the gift of life and 10,000 golden opportunities in an emulation which he only shares with skylarks, spee cats and squirrels!"

THE MATTERHORN ACCIDENT

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir—After the direct appeal which I have received from the President of the Alpine Club and from yourself to write an account of the accident on the Matterhorn, I feel it is impossible to remain silent any longer...

We remained on the summit for one hour, and during the time Hudson and I consulted, as we had done all the day, as to the best and safest arrangement of the party. We agreed that it would be best for Croc to go first, as he was the most powerful, and Hadow second; Hudson, who was equal to a guide in sureness of foot, wished to be third; Lord F. Douglas was placed next, and old Taugwelder, the strongest of the remainder, behind him. I suggested to Hudson that we should attach a rope to the rocks on our arrival at the difficult bit, and hold it as we descended, as an additional protection. He approved the idea, but it was not definitely settled that it should be done... A few minutes afterwards I tied myself to young Taugwelder and followed, catching them just as they were commencing the descent of the difficult part described above. The greatest care was being taken. Only one man was moving at a time; when he was firmly planted the next advanced, and so on. The average distance between each was probably 20 feet. They had not, however, attached the additional rope to the rocks, and nothing was said about it.

I was as I have explained, detached from the others, and following them; but after about a quarter of an hour Lord F. Douglas asked me to tie on to old Taugwelder, as he feared, he said, that if there was a slip Taugwelder would not be able to hold him. This was done hardly ten minutes before the accident, and undoubtedly saved Taugwelder's life.

As far as I know, at the moment of the accident, no one was actually moving. I cannot speak with certainty, neither can the Taugwelders, because the two leading men were partially hidden from our sight by an intervening mass of rocks. Poor Croc had laid aside his axe, and in order to give Mr. Hadow greater security was absolutely taking hold of his legs and putting his feet, one by one, into their proper positions. From the movements of their shoulders it is my belief that Croc, having seen as I have said, was in the act of turning round to go down a step or two himself; at this moment Mr. Hadow slipped, fell on him, and knocked him over. I heard one startled exclamation from Croc, then saw him and Mr. Hadow flying downwards; in another moment Hudson was dragged from his steps and Lord F. Douglas immediately after him. All this was the work of a moment; but two moments we heard Croc's exclamation "Taugwelder and myself planted ourselves as firmly as the rocks would permit; the rope was tight between us, and the shock came on us both as on one man. We held; but the rope broke mid way between Taugwelder and Lord F. Douglas. For two or three seconds we saw our unfortunate companions sliding downwards on their backs, and groaning out their hands endeavouring to save themselves; they then disappeared one by one, and fell from precipice to precipice on to the Matterhorn glacier below, a distance of nearly 4,000 feet in height.

For the space of half an hour we remained on the spot without moving a single step. The two men, paralyzed by terror, cried like infants, and trembled in such a manner as to threaten us with the fate of the others. Immediately we had descended to a safe place I asked for the rope that had broken, and to my surprise—indeed, to my horror—I found that it was the weakest of the three ropes. As the first five men had been tied while I was sketching I had not noticed the rope they employed, and now I could only conclude that they had seen fit to use this in preference to the others. It has been stated that the rope broke in consequence of its fraying over a rock; this is not the case, it broke in mid-air, and the end does not show any trace of previous injury...

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
EDWARD WHYMPER,
Hastlemere, Aug. 7.

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COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

CLARENCE HOUSE
August 7: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother today visited the Black Isle Show at Muir-of-Orr, Ross-shire.

Her Majesty travelled in an Aircoach to the Queen's Flight, Ruth, Lady Fermoy, Major Sir Ralph Anstruther, Lt. and Captain Niall Hall were in attendance.

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university's 350th anniversary celebrations. He will visit Chicago on September 4 and 5 to attend a charity ball in aid of the Salisbury Cathedral Spire Appeal and the Field Museum of Chicago, open the British Museum at Marshall Field's department store and play in a polo match.

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University news

Cambridge

Elections
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CRISTO'S COLLEGE
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DARWIN COLLEGE
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GRYTON COLLEGE
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CONVILLE AND CARUS COLLEGE
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JESUS COLLEGE
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Archaeology

American visitors 32,000 years ago

By Norman Hammond, Archaeology Correspondent

The detailed evidence of the oldest human presence in South America, reported recently in *The Times*, has now been published. It suggests that people entered the New World from Siberia well over 32,000 years ago, and that before 30,000 years ago cave art was being painted in Brazil.

The discoveries at the Pedra Furada cave, on the Rio Piaui in north-eastern Brazil, include more than a thousand stone flakes, some of them tools, the remains of plants and animals, and numerous deposits of charcoal from hearths. Radiocarbon dating of the latter has yielded 17 dates ranging from about 32,000 for one of the earliest layers, to about 6,000 years ago for a late layer.

Pedra Furada is one of some 200 painted rock shelters, or shallow caves found on the Piaui River by a Franco-Brazilian expedition which worked there in the early 1970s. Pedra Furada proved to have deep deposits, some three metres deep, and excavations finished only last year.

Processing of the radiocarbon samples by the French laboratory at Gif-sur-Yvette produced the surprisingly long and complete chronology reported in *Nature* by G. Delibrias, of the Gif laboratory, and N. Guidon, of the Ecole des Hautes Etudes des Sciences Humaines in Paris.

The earliest deposits at the site are undated: they contained only a scatter of charcoal and two flaked stones. The following layers are divided by the authors into two major periods, one named Pedra Furada after the site, lasting from 32,000 to 17,000 years ago, and a later Serra Talhada phase from 12,000 to 6,000 years ago. There is a gap between the two phases, and there are no carbon dates for the second until 8,500 years ago.

Some 560 flaked stones were found in the first layer of the Pedra Furada phase, with two dates suggesting that this occupation dated to before 30,000 years ago. Painted rock fragments in both this and later deposits indicate that a rock art tradition existed here from the beginning, as early as the famed cave art of France and Spain.

The early dates from Brazil are strong evidence in favour of an early entry of humans into the New World, while other sites with early dates exist, such as Tlapacoya in Mexico and Meadowcroft in Pennsylvania, they are some 10,000 years later. Also, some of the evidence advanced in recent years from California and Canada to support an early date for human entry to America has been discredited by the latest dating techniques, although new sites such as Monte Verde in Chile are claimed to be as early as Pedra Furada.

The debate about how early the first Americans arrived has been going for more than a century. Those favouring a recent arrival around 12,000 years ago point to the numerous sites after that period, and the very few, and even fewer undiscovered, of earlier date.

The proponents of a human presence before 20,000 years ago, and perhaps as early as 40,000 years ago, argue that while there are indeed few very early sites, there are enough to prove their case. The Pedra Furada discoveries strengthen it substantially.

Source: *Nature*, Vol. 321, pp. 769-771, 1986

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THE ARTS

Television
Gloomy
agony

"Real adolescent, you know fashionable pessimism," noted Diane Keaton in *Manhattan* when Woody Allen pronounced Ingmar Bergman the only true genius in the cinema today. "I mean the silence. God's silence. You absolutely outgrow it." Judging from the bleak etiolated agony of last night's *The Blessed Ones* (Channel 4), Bergman himself has not outgrown silence — still, less pessimism.

Indeed, this television film of Ulla Isaksson's adaptation of her own novel was one of his more depressing works, an exacting dirge of a drama about a middle-aged couple cruelly bound together by spiritual torment, embittered love and crazed imaginations. God may have remained silent but the Devil did not as the wife dragged her husband into sharing her obsession with the evil eye and dark forces. At least it ended at its most optimistic when the couple sought their final solution: courtship of Swedish gas, the stove appeared to provide some terminal comfort from its British counterpart.

Bergman's recent *Fanny and Alexander*, at times almost indulgent in its pleasures, had promised a late flowering of a genius that threatened to become cradled by its persistent obsessions. *The Blessed Ones*, however, is a throwback to themes of earlier masterpieces. The return is not altogether successful.

Part of the problem is that Bergman has for the first time chosen to work in video. As the dull immediacy of daily soap shows, video, when not up to its visual tricks, encourages intimacy with characters at the expense of sharpness of image. Last night the gloom came straight without the harsh visual beauty of the films. Some scenes were reminiscent of Beckett, particularly when the couple sat blackened in dark glasses beneath an upturned umbrella to ward off "poison", but with little of his brevity and none of his wit. A humorous vision of humanity is necessarily handicapped.

In *Body and Soul* a jolly old man, who had his knees removed, comically explained the appeal of being raised the timing of his jokes. It was, better though, he maintained, that silence or death. Break that to Bergman.

Andrew Hislop

Theatre

The old scars
of America

The American
Clock
Cottesloe

There is much truth in the dictum that the Great Depression constitutes the Matter of America more effectively than any other national trauma. Not excepting the Civil War — the "two great wounds" invoked at the close of this play which make even Vietnam and the War of Independence pale by comparison. No event in American history has brought home so crashingly the brutality of blind confidence and the ill-fortune of progress: the day the money went funny was the day the eagle got its first grey hair.

Arthur Miller's episodic mini-epic of the period — first produced in 1980 off-Broadway and here incorporating the author's substantial later revisions — was inspired by Studs Terkel's pioneering work of popular record, *Hard Times*. The Terkel procedure of giving real people their head in reminiscence has produced some invaluable accounts of personal experience

which fiction strains to emulate, and the creative writer in any medium naturally responds to the freshness of expression as well as to the authentic detail which such material furnishes.

It still remains, however, as material which requires artful cutting and shaping. The most compelling moments of the present piece are the sudden shafts of illumination which decorate the edges of the canvas: the story of a butcher being forced at rifle-point to hand over the fresh (maggot-free) meat supplied by the Government's relief programme; the brief word-picture of armed deputies guarding a cornfield while starving families sat in the road and stared at "all that food"; the tales of suicidal despair, the image of babies being heard in certain houses for the first time in 20 years as destitute young couples moved in with their in-laws.

If this were a documentary, the researcher would get alpha-plus; but theatre is not a history class, and this piece loses affect when so many of its riches sparkle offstage. Mr Miller's aim of building "a mosaic, a mural" works only when the disparate voices



Strap-hanging on the subway... with Marsha Hunt, Michael Bryant and Neil Daglish in the forefront

come together to make dramatic sense, as for instance the scene in the relief office where an ethnic salad-bowl of citizens vent their frustrations in a setting worthy of their expression.

The main story we follow is that of a wealthy Jewish family progressively pauperized until not only has the chauffeur been paid off, and the jewellery pawned, but the windows of their Brooklyn house have to be kept shut to fool the man from the mort-

gage company that no one is at home. There is not much to recommend the Baums as exemplars of the national agony: they may be typical but they are also, by the same token, inertly familiar, and when they and their immediate circle keep playing Schumann or Gershwin on their prized piano one suspects that Jewish charm has got the upper hand of hard-headed play-making.

Peter Wood's company double and triple with mostly

first-rate changes of accent, and the patterns they make on the spacious stage are often very pretty, particularly when strap-hanging in a swaying cluster for scene on the subway. Paul Curran has a fine edge of solemnity at the speak-easy on Black Thursday and later as a no-nonsense judge attempting to regulate an enforced farm auction in Iowa.

Marsha Hunt appears as a hooker invited to raise her consciousness with Engels

and, most effectively, as an aged Communist. David Schofield steals the show as the soft-shoe-dancing president of General Electric, a Mississippi sheriff and a manic Slavic anarchist.

The caption for the photograph with my notice on Wednesday of *Long Day's Journey into Night* mistakenly identified Peter Gallagher as Kevin Spacey.

Martin Cropper

Opera
So what
is real?

Così fan tutte
Elizabeth Hall

At the end one is left wondering how very shocking it might have been if this Opera Factory-London Sinfonietta production of *Così fan tutte* had been done in powdered wigs and buckled shoes. As it is, the vision is of course of a beach party in the present day, with Ferrando and Guglielmo feigning a tour of duty in Northern Ireland, returning as sheikhs and being revived by electric shock treatment. Equally inevitably, David Freeman being the producer, there is a good bit of groping in the builder's sand (unfair on the wardrobe department), including an extraordinary slow motion squirm in the Act finale — though this makes more sense after it has been paralleled by similarly coiling contortions, but now mental rather than physical, going on at the very end of the opera.

This ending is poignant. The four lovers gyrate around each other in perplexity, and their final couplings are left in doubt: perhaps the lesson they have learnt is that they do not really matter, and it is a lesson the music is curiously capable of sustaining. What the score cannot sustain, of course, is any contact with 1986 leisure wear. Mr Freeman's printed apology for his production refers to something called "real people", but he ignores the obvious problem that real people do not go about singing Mozart. In 1790 they could have done; that blessed audience could have seen characters in contemporary dress in subtle fluctuations from the genuine to the affected. But to put the opera into contemporary dress now is to smear one gross irony over a host of more interesting ones.

I can understand why Mr Freeman should have wished to avoid the plain solution of period costume, which can easily distance us from the true business of the work as much as updating does. However, there needs to be some contact with the 18th century, some reason for this music to be going on. There must also be some reason for the social conventions: one needs some sure emotion at the heart to avoid everything seeming affection.

Fortunately for this production, there is Marie Angel in Act II to express that desperate certainty of feeling. She may not have the resources to fling her voice easily around the role of Fiordiligi, but she sings and acts the part of a solemn but potentially volatile, intensely sexy, young woman to perfection. She alone has some resemblance to "real people".

The others ably project their roles as actors in a Freeman production. Janis Kelly is a vibrant and juicy Despina. Christine Botes a young miss enjoying the part of Dorabella. Nigel Robson a distinctly worried and vocally frayed Ferrando, and Geoffrey Dolton a straightforward and charming Guglielmo. Tom McDonnell is suave and assured (though not always so assured in pitch) as Alfonso, and his counterpart as conductor of the musical proceedings is Paul Daniel, for whom the woodwind of the London Sinfonietta make a more admirable noise than the strings.

Paul Griffiths

Dance: the Bolshoi Ballet

Bold sweeps of drama

Spartacus
Covent Garden

Spartacus was Yuri Grigorovich's first blockbuster hit with the Bolshoi Ballet and it remains almost certainly his most successful work. The roars of approval at Covent Garden on Wednesday night showed that it holds the same attraction for British audiences now as in previous seasons here.

The plot is familiar enough, if only from the film based on the same novel. Just as well, really, since Grigorovich does not so much narrate it as illustrate it. The actual confrontations between the Roman General Crassus and his prisoner Spartacus, who leads an uprising of slaves against him, are minimal. Much of the time they are either judging in long solos meant as soliloquies, leading their followers in warlike manoeuvres or indulging in domestic relaxation: virtuous wedded bliss for the hero, and what looked like tango teas for his adversary.

Until the very end, when Spartacus is impaled and held aloft on the Roman spears, and his faithful Phrygia grieves over him, the drama comes mostly from the frequent incursions of one army or another in bold sweeps of male dancing which are given their climax by the entry of their leaders. Rome has the bigger battalions, but the insurrectionists have the bigger jumps, and Spartacus has the biggest of all: great torrents of movement through the air.

One last thought. Mr Harvey Goldsmith, who presented the gala, might like to include a charity la-à-la, next time. That way, not all the ticket-holders will end up in Pavarotti's rice-bowl.

Hilary Finch

Gala concert

Luciano Pavarotti
Wembley Arena

The handful of rice, which Pavarotti claimed he would be tucking into at the Savoy three hours before his gala concert obviously went down well. In the vast barn of Wembley's arena Pavarotti looked positively Lilliputian, dwarfed by his latest publicity campaign and a massed audience of 9,000.

Not that there was anything diminutive about the sound. A huge central sound system amplified every note throughout the evening, and just as well, for the overture to *I vespri siciliani* was barely audible through the steady stream of intercomers, and the "Dance of the Blessed Spirits", played by Andrea Griminelli, Pavarotti's tame flautist, picked his way but cautiously through the bustle of vendors' stalls: it seemed, doing a brisk trade outside.

So what was the nature of those precious minutes? The Verdi arias in the first half rang out in a well-controlled fortissimo, the words and rhythms of "Queste o quelle" given some welcome extra leverage where necessary. By the time Cilea's *L'elisir d'amore* had been reached, the darker vowels of Pavarotti's lament helped focus the voice's richer register.

When it was time for the

Neapolitan favourites after the interval, the smile was widening, the feet were tapping, and both the cantabile and the spiccato were flowing more freely. The grazed higher reaches of the register seemed to have had balm applied to them: De Crescenzo's "Rondine al Nido" (with flute) and Buzzi's "Lolita" (flute, tambourine, harp) showed the beginning of a spriteliness of articulation and firmness of legato which reached its apotheosis in Giordano's "Amor ti vieta" and De Curtis' "Non ti scorderò di me". There were doubtless encores which were even more fun, but my deadline did not, alas, permit me to hear them.

One last thought. Mr Harvey Goldsmith, who presented the gala, might like to include a charity la-à-la, next time. That way, not all the ticket-holders will end up in Pavarotti's rice-bowl.

Hilary Finch

Cinema: an encouraging discovery from China

Touching regard for character

Yellow Earth
ICA

Survivors — The Blues
Today (PG)
Cannon Charing Cross
Road

Chen Kaige's *Yellow Earth* represents a new stage in the Chinese cinema's painful recovery from the depredations of the "Cultural Revolution". It was made in one of the small, newly established provincial studios which have given opportunity for young directors who might otherwise wait years for the chance to direct in the more hierarchical metropolitan studios. It has a freshness and suppleness new to Chinese cinema, uses remote locations never seen on the screen before, and breaks away from the neatly packaged dogma and obligatory optimism of most precedent Communist film-making.

The story is set in 1939, in a poor province of western China and a village on the Yellow River — a river which has a mystical place in Chinese history and culture yet forever impoverishes the land it runs through by relentlessly washing away the top soil. It is, says Chen Kaige, "the mother of civilization and its destroyer".

The Sino-Japanese war is raging, but no rumour of it reaches this remote and wretched place. A young Communist soldier arrives in the village with the dual task of collecting local folk-songs and spreading the party message. He is shocked by the poverty and by oppressive local customs like the selling of brides: Billeted with a widower and his two pre-teen children, he gradually overcomes their reserve, and excites the children with the idea of Communist revolution. After he has left, the 12-year-old girl tries to escape a sold marriage by running away to join the Red Army, but vanishes on the river.

The story is told with simplicity and touching regard for the characters — the open, eager girl, the taciturn old man and the tongue-tied little boy who suddenly blossoms into life as he plucks up courage to follow a bawdy folk-song. Their rudimentary lives are played out against the dramatic, menacing mountain landscapes, and ordered by age-old custom and superstition. Kaige shows the villagers engaged in a marriage ceremony (so poor is the community that carved wooden fish have to substitute for a ritual dish) and an incantatory rain-dance to the Dragon King of the Sea. In the Red Army camp, too, though, there are celebratory dances. The film seems to argue for cultural continuity: the purpose of collecting folk-songs is to adapt them to the uses of Communism.

This dilemma between destroying or adopting cultural legacies from the past



The young soldier with his idealistic mission tries to draw out the tongue-tied little village boy in *Yellow Earth*

is a perpetual and delicate issue in Communist philosophy. Kaige refuses dogmatic judgement. He will neither allow a sweeping condemnation of the old traditional order nor concede that Communism can bring instant and easy answers: at the end of the film the young soldier is forced to recognize his impotence in being unable to save the lost girl.

The story is historical in setting but clearly raises still relevant issues: the conservative Chinese film organization is said to have opposed its export for a while despite — or because of — its success abroad. Now it is permitted, and its openness gives new distinction to the Chinese cinema.

A second viewing exposes weaknesses — moments of somewhat self-conscious artistry, shaky post-synchronization of the very taking folk-music; and some inappropriate passages of background

music quite inconsistent with the skillful manipulation of sound elsewhere in the film. They are slight faults in such an encouraging first work.

Shot by Cork Mareschi and Robert Schwartz during a three-day blues concert in Minnesota, *Survivors — The Blues Today* is really more about Revivers. The only performer who qualifies as survivor is the black blues veteran John Lee Hooker, most of the others are middle-aged, middle-class and evidently over-fed white enthusiasts who faithfully produce the sounds but rarely much of the feeling of black music. There are some rather perfunctory backstage discussions about the sources and the authenticity of the music they play, but these are far too scrappy to get anywhere. In compensation there are a few good numbers by both black and white performers.

David Robinson

Promenade Concerts

Not a chink in their armour

NYOGB/Elder
Albert Hall/Radio 3

The vast forces of the National Youth Orchestra assembled once again for yet another performance. In this one the orchestra relished the dizzying erotic frenzy of a movement like "Joie du sang des étoiles", while the complex rhythms of the three "Turangalila" movements proved no problem, and the slower sections were tightly controlled. Excellent work came, too, from the principal soloists. Peter Donohoe (piano) and Cynthia Miller (ondes martenot).

Ridiculously, it seems that this orchestra, a great national asset if there ever was one, is still not publicly funded: last year two concerts had to be cancelled because a sponsor went bankrupt. Really, where are our priorities?

Stephen Pettitt

Nexus Opera
Albert Hall/Radio 3

Benjamin Britten's *Curtain River*, the first of his "church parables", which were written after his encounter with the Japanese. Noh-play, must surely rank among his finest and most deeply affecting dramatic works, not excepting the likes of *Peter Grimes*. The subject-matter — the death of a child and the grieving of his mother — is presented with a simplicity that overwhelms. And the shattering climax, when the child appears in a vision, thus bringing peace and sanity to his mother, the Madwoman, is executed quite brilliantly.

Ronald Eyr's production for this Promenade Concert performance by Nexus Opera chose to dispense with the specified masks and thus, probably sensibly in so vast a hall, drew the audience closer to the personalities on stage. It was a similarly effective, if obvious, solution to have the monks process through the arena singing the "Te Deum" at the beginning and end of the work, and to enact it on a small stage erected for the purpose below the main platform.

One's view of the work is inevitably coloured by Peter Pears's celebrated portrayal of the Madwoman, and here Mark Curtis, though both younger and purer in voice, seemed to have that model firmly in his mind as he pursued the character's tortured ramblings, so simply but deftly reflected in the upward slides of Britten's vocal line. Robert Poulton, the Ferryman, sang with a directness appropriate for such a simple soul, while John Rath's Traveller and David Gwynne's Abbot offered splendid contextual support.

Lionel Friend directed the spare but richly effective score purposefully though not over-urgently from the chamber organ, and the ensemble Divertimenti played excellently for him. But the most telling performance came from young Melvyn Jones, singing the part of the Boy's Spirit with a confident and stunningly beautiful sound. I do not mind confessing that I was moved to tears.

S.P.

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Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1221.5 (-12.2)
FT-SE 100
1529.9 (-10.5)
Bargains
18789
USM (Datastream)
120.07 (-1.32)
THE POUND
US Dollar
1.4756 (-0.0010)
W German mark
3.0519 (-0.0206)
Trade-weighted
70.9 (-0.4)

\$500m for Goldman

Goldman Sachs, the US securities house, is to receive a capital injection of \$500 million (£340 million) from Sumitomo Bank, the third largest in Japan. Sumitomo will become a limited partner and will be entitled to 2.5 per cent of Goldman's profits from the end of 1988.

Hamlyn leaves News Int

Mr Paul Hamlyn has resigned as a non-executive director of News International plc. The chairman of the company, Mr Rupert Murdoch, said: "Mr Hamlyn has given great service as a director of News International for the last 16 years. We look forward to continuing our friendship and mutual counsel in the future."

BT contract

British Telecom has won a contract, initially worth £26m, to supply Satellite Ranging Developments with Europe's largest private satellite network to enable betting shops in Britain to screen live coverage of sporting events.

Holding cut

Eagle Star Insurance has reduced its holding in Philip Hill Investment Trust by 4.15 million shares to 13.43 million, or 13.9 per cent. Eagle Star Investments has disposed of its £1.460 Hill shares.

TI profits up

TI Group, the engineering company, lifted its pretax profits from £12.6 million to £18.1 million in the first half of this year. Turnover fell from £502.6 million to £490.1 million.

BOC ahead

BOC Group, the industrial gases and healthcare group, lifted profits from £124.1 million to £135.2 million in the nine months to June 30. Turnover fell from £1.76 billion to £1.66 billion.

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Wall Street	18	Foreign Exch	19
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Commodity	18	Unit Trusts	20
Stock Market	19	USM Prices	20
Money Markets	19	Share Prices	21

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	1791.76 (+12.23)
Dow Jones	1791.76 (+12.23)
Nikkei Dow	17422.36 (+68.88)
Hong Kong	1920.18 (+32.35)
Hang Seng	2497.5 (+1.2)
Amsterdam Gen	1150.4 (-10.8)
Sydney 10	1150.4 (-10.8)
Frankfurt	1150.4 (-10.8)
Commerzbank	1150.4 (-10.8)
Brussels	1150.4 (-10.8)
General	1150.4 (-10.8)
Paris CAC	1150.4 (-10.8)
Zurich	1150.4 (-10.8)
SKA General	n/a
London closing prices	Page 21

INTEREST RATES

London	10%
3-month Interbank	10 1/8-10 1/2%
3-month eligible bills	9 1/2-9 3/4%
buying rate	
US	
Prime Rate	8%
Federal Funds	5 1/4%
3-month Treasury Bills	5.70-5.85%
30-year bonds	8 1/2-8 3/4%

CURRENCIES

London	New York
\$1.4756	\$1.4756
£1.4756	£1.4756
DM2.2406	DM2.2406
FF9.8877	FF9.8877
Yen227.08	Yen227.08
Index70.9	Index70.9

NORTH SEA OIL

London	New York
\$38.85	\$38.85
£38.85	£38.85
DM38.85	DM38.85
FF38.85	FF38.85
Yen38.85	Yen38.85

Barclays trails clearers with 8% profits rise

By Richard Thomson
Banking Correspondent

Barclays Bank ended the half-year reporting season for the big four clearing banks yesterday by announcing a disappointing set of results which revealed an unexpectedly weak performance in domestic banking operations.

Pretax profits for the group over the half-year to June 30 were £434 million, up 8 per cent from the £403 million profit at the same time last year.

The result was near the bottom of the range of analysts' expectations and follows a profit increase announced by the other three clearing banks on 26 per cent to 34 per cent. It also follows a strong profits growth at the end of last year.

Despite a 13 per cent interim dividend increase from 8.4p to 9.5p, Barclays' shares fell sharply by 17p from 474p to 457p after the news. The rest of the banking sector weakened in response to the figures and to a generally lower stock market.

Sir Timothy Bevan, the chairman, said: "This is a healthy performance and we could have shown larger figures had we expanded assets more rapidly." In the present competitive conditions Barclays had limited the growth in assets in the interests of long-term banking prudence, seeking controlled expansion and quality profits.

Sir Timothy said that he



Sir Timothy Bevan: "a healthy performance"

regretted the failure of the South African Government to respond positively to Sir Geoffrey Howe's recent mission, or to the Eminent Persons Group.

He said there were plans to withdraw the Barclays name from Barclays National, the South African Bank in which it has a 40 per cent holding, by 1990 although it could happen sooner. BarNat produced a strong performance over the last six months which was mostly cancelled out by the fall in the value of the Rand.

Sir Timothy also hit out at irresponsible lending on mortgages to individual borrowers. He called for restraint by both lenders and borrowers and said the more generous terms offered by some lenders were irresponsible in tempting people to borrow more than they could afford. Barclays' own mortgage lending has reached

£2.7 billion, offering advances of 2.5 to 3 times income, he said. The bank made a profit of £17 million on mortgage lending over the last six months.

While the other clearing banks have made their biggest profit increases in domestic banking, Barclays produced a domestic increase of £4 million to £200 million, a rise of 2 per cent. Sir Timothy said that the introduction of free-if-credit banking early this year had made a negative impact on commissions earned by the bank, while the fall in the general level of interest rates had depressed the bank's interest margins.

Bad debt provisions on British business had remained virtually unchanged from last year at £62 million. Barclays was, however, able to cut the overall bad debt provision to £196 million from last year's total of £217 million.

Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the securities and investment banking arm, was included for the first time in the figures, showing a profit of £20 million compared with the £10 million profit from Barclays Merchant Bank alone last year.

BZW is also acquiring a 60 per cent stake in Wall Street Clearing Company, a New York stock exchange member.

Other areas showed little profit growth apart from a 10 per cent improvement in US operations

Temps, page 18



Curry chain plans USM debut

Mr Sant Chawla (above), whose world chain of Indian restaurants has led to a quote on the New York Stock Exchange, opened his third London outlet yesterday and announced plans for an expanding British chain and a launch on London's Unlisted Securities Market. (writes Derek Harris).

He is aiming at a February quote on the USM for his British company, which also takes in several restaurants in Canada.

He launched his first Bombay Palace in New York, expanded in North America and then branched out into Europe and the Far East. He hopes to open restaurants soon in Peking and Moscow.

To cope with the demand for trained specialists in Indian cooking he has opened a training centre, a "curry university," in New York to which staff from Britain will go, some for as long as a year.

Mr Chawla, 39, from the Punjab in northern India, is

adding variations to the Bombay Palace formula. The latest London opening, the Bokhara, is more specialized, concentrating on the cuisine of the North-west frontier.

He is aiming to set up almost a dozen British restaurants, including Bombay Palaces at Bristol and Birmingham. Oxford is expected to be another location.

The chain has been built up since 1979 with turnover this year expected to reach \$16 million (about £10.8 million).

Chesterons is also strong in sales in most European resorts. The overseas connection provides the Prudential with opportunities for its new international financial services arm, which will start selling to the expatriate market in the autumn.

Earl & Lawrence has 11 offices in Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and Humberside.

The two acquisitions, at undisclosed prices, take the Prudential's total number of outlets to 188, leaving it in third position behind Hambro Countrywide with 385 and Black Horse with 243.

There are more acquisitions in the pipeline.

Lotus sold by Burton for £19m

By Cliff Feltham

Burton Group yesterday clawed back some of the £580 million it paid for Debenhams when it bled off the Lotus shoe-making business to FIL, the South Wales footwear manufacturer, for £19 million.

Mr Monty Surray, chairman of FIL, was jubilant. He said: "It is a golden opportunity for us. I have been looking around for a deal like this since 1972."

The acquisition makes him the largest supplier of women's shoes to Marks & Spencer.

Sir Ralph Halpern, chairman of Burton, was also happy. He is now free to concentrate on finding buyers for other unwanted parts of Debenhams. Halpern's toy shop in Regent Street, London and an American shoe shop-chain.

Lotus, which was founded in 1960, has three factories in Stafford, Northampton, and Banbridge, Northern Ireland, which will all be kept going.

Last year it made a profit of £4 million on turnover of £36 million.

FIL is paying for the acquisition through a rights issue on the basis of seven new shares at 27p for every six held.

Mr Surray is forecasting profits for the year just finished of about £2.2 million

October talks

Opex will meet again on October 6 to discuss production quotas, a new price system and how to abandon the netback system of oil marketing. Señor Javier Espinosa, Energy and Mines Minister of Ecuador, said. The venue is undecided.

Prudential buys two estate agencies

By Alison Eadie

The Prudential Corporation, through its subsidiary Prudential Property Services, has bought two more estate agencies - Chesterons Residential, an upmarket London agency, and Earl & Lawrence, based in the East Midlands.

Chesterons is the Prudential's first estate agency acquisition in London and will provide the base for further expansion in the capital.

Aside from its substantial letting department, which let 1,000 properties last year, Chesterons' 10 offices handled £200 million worth of sales in 1985, at prices averaging £150,000.

There are more acquisitions in the pipeline.

Goodman cuts stake

By Cliff Feltham

Mr Harry Goodman, head of the International Leisure Group, has sold a £4.4 million block of shares in the company.

Mr Goodman, whose Intasun group is the country's second largest tour operator, said he needed the money to meet personal commitments.

The sale of 3.7 million International Leisure shares cuts his stake in the business to 8 million shares, or 15.5 per cent.

A small block of 125,000 shares was also sold by his two deputy chairmen, Mr Stephen

Mathews and Mr Peter Woodward.

The shares were placed with City institutions at a price of 112p. It was the second attempt to reduce their holding - last Friday they unsuccessfully tried to find a home for the shares at 118p.

Mr Woodward said the reason for selling was not that they were no longer committed to the business but because a large chunk of their personal wealth was tied up in the company.

International Leisure shares were unchanged at 118p

Profits drop 16% at Shell

By David Young
Energy Correspondent

Profits of Shell, the world's second largest oil company have dropped by 16 per cent because of Opec's decision last December to send oil prices down.

Shell's figures for the second quarter of the present year issued yesterday underline the importance to Western economies of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries' hold on prices.

Profits dropped from £646 million in the April to June period last year to £545 million this year.

The fall was in line with stock market expectations, but nevertheless demonstrates how welcome the present rise in crude oil prices is to Western oil companies.

Shell also lost £126 million because of currency fluctuations as sterling rose against the dollar when dollar-denominated oil prices fell. Losses were £95 million higher on currency transactions compared with the same period last year.

However, profits from refining and marketing - turning cheaper crude oil into the products bought by industry and motorists - rose by 11 per cent while sales from oil-derived chemicals have also risen to record levels.

The latest Opec initiative has led to announcements from Shell and the other leading oil companies that rising crude prices mean that higher petrol prices are needed.

Texaco, in fourth place in the British market behind Esso, Shell and BP, said that it should not be surprised to see prices rise within the next week or two.

Texaco has consistently said that prices of about £1.64 a gallon are needed to bring profits from petrol sales, even with crude oil at \$10 a barrel.

However, market forces will mean that petrol prices will rise from the present bargain levels in some areas. However, market forces and Government pressure to keep prices down will mean that prices far above present levels will not be seen this year unless Opec surprises world markets by cutting back further on oil output.

That is regarded as unlikely, even if Opec wins concessions from non-member oil producing nations to trim their output.

The Opec president, Mr Rilwani Lukman, the Nigerian oil minister is now planning to meet the Secretary of State for Energy, Mr Peter Walker, to again ask for co-operation from Britain in helping to bring the present oil supply-demand imbalance under control.

Kenneth Fleet, page 19

System X dilemma still to be solved

By Teresa Poole

Yesterday morning, just 24 hours after GEC's £1.2 billion bid for Plessey was blocked by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, Sir John Clark, chairman and chief executive of Plessey, was enjoying a well-earned holiday.

Mr James Prior, chairman of GEC, and Sir John's adversary of the past six months, was equally efficient in departing the country. He left for a business meeting in Canada by lunchtime on the day the report was published. At GEC, bids may be blocked but industrial life must go on.

As the two men walked away the hours on their respective aeroplanes, copies of the MMC report were no doubt near to hand and both will by now have digested the recommendations on the future of System X which prescribe some form of rationalization. In this respect the two companies will, for now, have to file the MMC report as a "finished business."

The Commission argued that a merger of the System X digital exchange businesses would save costs, leading to a better export performance, greater investment in future systems, and lower prices which would benefit British Telecom.

Here the MMC is preaching to the converted. Since 1983 the two companies have tried, unsuccessfully, to come to some agreement about

merging a part or all of their telecommunications businesses.

BT has supported this move but refuses to take the initiative in enforcing some rationalization: it has no intention of driving either one out of the market by simply placing all orders for digital exchanges with the other.

In its evidence to the Commission, BT said that rationalization alone would not be adequate to ensure a viable British supplier of public switching. It sees the need for extensive relationships with partners with wide international interests even for a monopoly British switching manufacturer. The UK alone could not provide a large enough base for the research and development expenditure necessary in the production of the next generation of switches, it said.

Since the early 1960s, Britain's share of world exports of telecommunications equipment has declined from 25 per cent to under 5 per cent and, so far, System X has had minimal export success in a market suffering from worldwide over-capacity.

Plessey is already collaborating on research and development with Alcatel of France, Italtel of Italy and Siemens of West Germany, under an agreement signed in April 1985. But there are problems with GEC over the

European partnership having access to System X technology without some benefit to GEC.

The MMC considered that fusion of the two companies' System X interests would avoid just these sort of difficulties.

The form of such a fusion remains to be seen, given the present stalemate. Professor Bryan Carsberg, the telecommunications watchdog, said he would prefer to see only the public switching activities merged rather than full amalgamation of all the respective telecommunications businesses.

BT said there was some logic in including transmission equipment and cables in any merger but the MMC decided this would dominate the field to such an extent that the position of other domestic suppliers would become very difficult.

Nevertheless, with the advent of opto-electronics, the boundary between public switching and transmission will become harder to define. With this in mind and the possible future need to create transmission systems teams if cable and components are to be successfully sold at home and abroad, BT also suggested that an alliance between Plessey and BICC might be more desirable. That is something that may concentrate the minds at GEC.

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November. (34) Last working day of month. (35) 15th of month. (36) 14th of month. (37) 21st of month. (38) 2nd Wednesday of month. (39) 2nd Wednesday of month. (40) Valued monthly. (41) Last Thursday of Stock Exchange account. (42) Last day of month. (43) 2nd and 4th Wednesday of month. (44) Quarterly. (45) 8th of month. (46) 2nd Tuesday of month.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chgs	Gross Div	Yld %	P/E
10	10	10	A & M	10	0	0	0	0
11	11	11	ABC	11	0	0	0	0
12	12	12	ABC	12	0	0	0	0
13	13	13	ABC	13	0	0	0	0
14	14	14	ABC	14	0	0	0	0
15	15	15	ABC	15	0	0	0	0
16	16	16	ABC	16	0	0	0	0
17	17	17	ABC	17	0	0	0	0
18	18	18	ABC	18	0	0	0	0
19	19	19	ABC	19	0	0	0	0
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28	28	28	ABC	28	0	0	0	0
29	29	29	ABC	29	0	0	0	0
30	30	30	ABC	30	0	0	0	0
31	31	31	ABC	31	0	0	0	0
32	32	32	ABC	32	0	0	0	0
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34	34	34	ABC	34	0	0	0	0
35	35	35	ABC	35	0	0	0	0
36	36	36	ABC	36	0	0	0	0
37	37	37	ABC	37	0	0	0	0
38	38	38	ABC	38	0	0	0	0
39	39	39	ABC	39	0	0	0	0
40	40	40	ABC	40	0	0	0	0
41								

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chgs	Gross Div	Yld %	P/E
10	10	10	A & M	10	0	0	0	0
11	11	11	ABC	11	0	0	0	0
12	12	12	ABC	12	0	0	0	0
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36	36	36	ABC	36	0	0	0	0
37	37	37	ABC	37	0	0	0	0
38	38	38	ABC	38	0	0	0	0
39	39	39	ABC	39	0	0	0	0
40	40	40	ABC	40	0	0	0	0
41								

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chgs	Gross Div	Yld %	P/E
10	10	10	A & M	10	0	0	0	0
11	11	11	ABC	11	0	0	0	0
12	12	12	ABC	12	0	0	0	0
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36	36	36	ABC	36	0	0	0	0
37	37	37	ABC	37	0	0	0	0
38	38	38	ABC	38	0	0	0	0
39	39	39	ABC	39	0	0	0	0
40	40	40	ABC	40	0	0	0	0
41								

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chgs	Gross Div	Yld %	P/E
10	10	10	A & M	10	0	0	0	0
11	11	11	ABC	11	0	0	0	0
12	12	12	ABC	12	0	0	0	0
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16	16	16	ABC	16	0	0	0	0
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36	36	36	ABC	36	0	0	0	0
37	37	37	ABC	37	0	0	0	0
38	38	38	ABC	38	0	0	0	0
39	39	39	ABC	39	0	0	0	0
40	40	40	ABC	40	0	0	0	0
41								

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chgs	Gross Div	Yld %	P/E
10	10	10	A & M	10	0	0	0	0
11	11	11	ABC	11	0	0	0	0
12	12	12	ABC	12	0	0	0	0
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15	15	15	ABC	15	0	0	0	0
16	16	16	ABC	16	0	0	0	0
17	17	17	ABC	17	0	0	0	0
18	18	18	ABC	18	0	0	0	0
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20	20	20	ABC	20	0	0	0	0
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23	23	23	ABC	23	0	0	0	0
24	24	24	ABC	24	0	0	0	0
25	25	25	ABC	25	0	0	0	0
26	26	26	ABC	26	0	0	0	0
27	27	27	ABC	27	0	0	0	0
28	28	28	ABC	28	0	0	0	0
29	29	29	ABC	29	0	0	0	0
30	30	30	ABC	30	0	0	0	0
31	31	31	ABC	31	0	0	0	0
32	32	32	ABC	32	0	0	0	0
33	33	33	ABC	33	0	0	0	0
34	34	34	ABC	34	0	0	0	0
35	35	35	ABC	35	0	0	0	0
36	36	36	ABC	36	0	0	0	0
37	37	37	ABC	37	0	0	0	0
38	38	38	ABC	38	0	0	0	0
39	39	39	ABC	39	0	0	0	0
40	40	40	ABC	40	0	0	0	0
41								

Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Group	Cash or Div
1	Wimpey (George)	Building, Roads	
2	Nottingham Brick	Building, Roads	
3	Marion Thompson	Breweries	
4	Davy	Industrials A-D	
5	Harro Queensway	Drugs, Stores	
6	Whitbread Inv	Breweries	
7	Barrat Davy	Building, Roads	
8	Cydon	Chemicals, Plastics	
9	Br Syphon	Industrials A-D	
10	Sunlife Speelman	Chemicals, Plastics	
11	Baker Perkins	Industrials A-D	
12	Blagden	Chemicals, Plastics	
13	Phylo	Chemicals, Plastics	
14	Adwest	Industrials A-D	
15	Bolmer (H P)	Breweries	
16	Fobel	Industrials E-K	
17	Wiggins	Building, Roads	
18	Gestner	Industrials E-K	
19	Bailey (Bos) Constr	Building, Roads	
20	Combined English	Drugs, Stores	
21	Goldfield (J) Hld	Bank, Discount	
22	Mediant	Industrials L-R	
23	BSR	Electricals	
24	Atwoods	Building, Roads	
25	Pic Indmar	Industrials E-K	
26	Low & Bonar	Industrials L-R	
27	Prevac	Electricals	
28	Brent Chem	Chemicals, Plastics	
29	Am Signal & Control	Electricals	
30	Allied-Lyons	Breweries	
31	Krupp Camen	Building, Roads	
32	Island Group	Drugs, Stores	
33	Bentley (James) A	Chemicals, Plastics	
34	Renault	Chemicals, Plastics	
35	VG Instruments	Electricals	
36	Scot TV A	Cinema, TV	
37	IMI	Industrials E-K	
38	Audio Fidelity	Electricals	
39	Bespak	Industrials A-D	
40	Davies & Newman	Industrials A-D	
41	RHM	Food	
42	Barham	Industrials A-D	
43	Salschen (Chim)	Food	
44	Kwik Save	Food	
45	Times Newspapers Ltd	Daily Total	

Please be sure to take account of any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £16,000 in tomorrow's newspaper.

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN

BRITISH FUNDS

1986 High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

1986 High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

1986 High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

1986 High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

UNDATED

1986 High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

INDEX-LINKED

1986 High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

1986 High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

1986 High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

1986 High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

1986 High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

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STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Equities still in retreat

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began July 28. Dealings end today. Contango day next Monday. Settlement day August 18.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

1986 High Low Company Price Change % P/E

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PERSONAL

Justices should be more ready to appoint guardians

Regina v Plymouth Juvenile Court, Ex parte F. Before Mr Justice Waterhouse (Judgment given July 31).

In child care proceedings, justices, having decided that it was in the best interests of the child to grant an order to the minor so that he could have separate representation in those proceedings, should bear in mind the probability that the appointment of a guardian *ad litem* would also be in the child's best interests. Such an appointment would assist the child's solicitor.

Mr Justice Waterhouse said in the Family Division when dismissing the parents' application for judicial review of orders made in the Plymouth Juvenile Court.

The first order was made by the clerk to the justices under section 32A(1) of the Children and Young Persons Act 1969, as amended by section 64 of the Children Act 1975, and provided that the parents should not be treated as representing the child in proceedings brought under section 32(1) of the 1969 Act as it appeared that there would be conflict between the interests of the child and those of the parents.

The second order in dispute was the juvenile court order that the child be committed to the care of the local authority.

Mr George O. Brown for the parents; Mr Llewellyn Sellick for Devon County Council; Mr A. Graham Jones for the child; Mr Gregory Stone for the justices.

MR JUSTICE WATERHOUSE said that the child had been born in December 1983 following the marriage of her parents in February 1984.

Following the birth of L there were allegations of violence by the 18-year-old husband towards his 16-year-old wife.

A supervision order was made in August 1984. In February 1985 L was admitted to hospital with multiple bruising and evidence of bite marks. A place of safety order was taken out and the child had been in care ever since.

The first order in dispute was made by the clerk to the justices on February 15, 1985 which provided for the separate representation of the child under section 32A of the 1969 Act.

It was submitted on behalf of the parents that the order should be quashed because the order was made without affording the parents the opportunity to be heard on the matter. It was said that the making of the order was a breach of the rules of natural justice because the parents had been deprived of their "right" to represent the child.

His Lordship was not persuaded that the parents had established any ground on which the court would be justified in quashing the order made under section 32A.

There was no breach of the *audi alteram partem* rule. The clerk had acted in the best interests of the child. The parents had not been deprived of their right to be heard in the care proceedings.

A subsidiary criticism was that no notice of the order made by the clerk to the justices was given to the applicant.

The Magistrates' Courts (Children and Young Persons) Rules (SI 1970 No 1792) (as amended by the Magistrates' Courts (Children and Young Persons) (Amendment) Rules (SI 1976 No 1769)) required that a parent or guardian should be given notice of the care proceedings and also notice of the appointment of a guardian *ad litem* if there was no similar provision relating to an order under section 32A.

His Lordship had been persuaded that it would help to avoid uncertainty and possible mistakes if there were to be requirement that notice of any order made under section 32A should be given to persons specified in rule 14(3) of the 1970 Rules.

The grounds on which the application for judicial review of the care order was the failure of the justices to appoint a guardian *ad litem* to the child.

Solicitors: D.C.I. Powell, Plymouth; Mr J.E. Coyne, Exeter; Bond Pearce, Plymouth; Mr Clifford Moser, Plymouth.

There was no ground on which the court would be justified to quash the care order or the order made by the clerk to the justices.

For the justices it was said that there was a great shortage of guardians *ad litem* and that many testing problems were being experienced in implementing the statutory provisions.

The present case was not an obvious case for the appointment of a guardian *ad litem* and the making of a care order was inevitable in the light of the evidence before the juvenile court.

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LEGAL SERVICES

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LEGAL SERVICES

FOR SALE

PROPERTY OF WYLLIE & SONS, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194, 196, 198, 200, 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 262, 264, 266, 268, 270, 272, 274, 276, 278, 280, 282, 284, 286, 288, 290, 292, 294, 296, 298, 300, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 338, 340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350, 352, 354, 356, 358, 360, 362, 364, 366, 368, 370, 372, 374, 376, 378, 380, 382, 384, 386, 388, 390, 392, 394, 396, 398, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, 418, 420, 422, 424, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 438, 440, 442, 444, 446, 448, 450, 452, 454, 456, 458, 460, 462, 464, 466, 468, 470, 472, 474, 476, 478, 480, 482, 484, 486, 488, 490, 492, 494, 496, 498, 500, 502, 504, 506, 508, 510, 512, 514, 516, 518, 520, 522, 524, 526, 528, 530, 532, 534, 536, 538, 540, 542, 544, 546, 548, 550, 552, 554, 556, 558, 560, 562, 564, 566, 568, 570, 572, 574, 576, 578, 580, 582, 584, 586, 588, 590, 592, 594, 596, 598, 600, 602, 604, 606, 608, 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 664, 666, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 702, 704, 706, 708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718, 720, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, 738, 740, 742, 744, 746, 748, 750, 752, 754, 756, 758, 760, 762, 764, 766, 768, 770, 772, 774, 776, 778, 780, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790, 792, 794, 796, 798, 800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, 892, 894, 896, 898, 900, 902, 904, 906, 908, 910, 912, 914, 916, 918, 920, 922, 924, 926, 928, 930, 932, 934, 936, 938, 940, 942, 944, 946, 948, 950, 952, 954, 956, 958, 960, 962, 964, 966, 968, 970, 972, 974, 976, 978, 980, 982, 984, 986, 988, 990, 992, 994, 996, 998, 1000.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REALISM HARDS. Social anthropologist and author who has successfully practiced psychiatric nursing on people, animals and plants for three years. Write to: REALISM, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194, 196, 198, 200, 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 262, 264, 266, 268, 270, 272, 274, 276, 278, 280, 282, 284, 286, 288, 290, 292, 294, 296, 298, 300, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 338, 340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350, 352, 354, 356, 358, 360, 362, 364, 366, 368, 370, 372, 374, 376, 378, 380, 382, 384, 386, 388, 390, 392, 394, 396, 398, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, 418, 420, 422, 424, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 438, 440, 442, 444, 446, 448, 450, 452, 454, 456, 458, 460, 462, 464, 466, 468, 470, 472, 474, 476, 478, 480, 482, 484, 486, 488, 490, 492, 494, 496, 498, 500, 502, 504, 506, 508, 510, 512, 514, 516, 518, 520, 522, 524, 526, 528, 530, 532, 534, 536, 538, 540, 542, 544, 546, 548, 550, 552, 554, 556, 558, 560, 562, 564, 566, 568, 570, 572, 574, 576, 578, 580, 582, 584, 586, 588, 590, 592, 594, 596, 598, 600, 602, 604, 606, 608, 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 6

